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POLITICAL DEVIATIONS OF ANDEAN PACT NOTED

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Dec 80 p 11

[Article by Manfred Schoenfeld: "The 'Little Summit Meeting' at Santa Marta"]

[Text] The "little summit meeting" of Latin American presidents being held today (under the aegis of Bolivarism) in the Colombian town of Santa Marta is the result of a subtle continental political balancing act stemming from the adroitness of the president of the country in which it is taking place, Turbay Ayala.

It was not without cause that there were times when the residents of Bogota (when referring to the three leading regions that once comprised the so-called Gran Colombia, and that are now Venezuela, Ecuador and Colombia, by name) used to describe them, with an undeniable touch of pride, as follows: "From Caracas come the military; from Quito, the priests; and from Bogota, the lawyers and politicians."

At the present time, much of this has changed, but the ability to harmonize ideologically different movements among themselves with a certain degree of flexibility is still one of the features of the political leading classes in Colombia. In the case of the Santa Marta meeting, the compatibility achieved did not prove to be perfect (as is evident from the absence of the president of one of the countries which is Bolivarian because of its name association: Bolivia); but that, too, tends to hold a significance, as we shall promptly observe.

The Inadequacies of the Andean Pact

As is publicly and widely known, the Andean Pact has not proven to be what the countries which signed the Cartagena document imagined at the outset.

Economic integration is one of the most difficult processes imaginable. Only after draining their lifeblood in two consecutive World Wars (and dragging the other half of the world behind them in that massacre) did a small group of European nations, all endowed with infrastructure and socioeconomic conditions that were rather similar in each of them, or at least not too difficult to adapt to one another, succeed, by means of a very long, complicated process of constant negotiation, in forming what has been termed the European Common Market, or the European Community.

The increase in the number of the six original founding nations to nine gave rise to colossal verbal parliamentary battles, to the fall of governments, to the election of different new ones, etc. For the time being, the process of integrating the Old World (a West European portion) has had to stop there.

We mention these facts (which are more than well known), returning to the Andean countries, to their presumptuous ambition to imitate the Europeans, despite the fact that the only thing they have in common is their unstable development their inadequate infrastructure, their capital depletion, their dissimilar economies, their virtual dependence on monoproduction in some instances, etc.

The Political Goal

Needless to say, the Andean Pact countries are fully aware of the entity's intrinsic inadequacies. But, since every entity (especially if it is supranational) must be kept in a state of operation, the less the pact's economic efficiency and "integrationist" capacity proved to be, the greater the emphasis placed on the political role that the institution might play in the hemisphere.

The Latin Americans are destined to engage in political games, whether they be rich nations or poor, large or small, powerful or weak.

After the Andean Pact's internal front began to split at the beginning of the 1970's, owing to differences in views concerning the treatment that should be given to foreign investors, it started engaging in the game of politics in the hemisphere with increasing intensity.

One of the results was that an ideal Andean country (insofar as its geographical location is concerned), namely, Chile, ended up being excluded from the Pact. It matters little, in this regard, what external form that exclusion assumed: whether it was that of a voluntary withdrawal ordered by the Pinochet regime, or that of a hint that such a withdrawal would be most fitting. The fact is that Chile left the Pact for ideological reasons: the Santiago regime was too right wing for the other "Andean" governments; although, at that time, the majority of those remaining were far removed from being model democracies. Only in Venezuela was there a government constitutionally resulting from normal elections. There were individual military regimes in Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia; and in Colombia itself, the "sui generis" alliance based on consensus between Conservatives and Liberals was governing.

Nevertheless, there was agreement among governments that were so different from one another to eliminate Chile from the group. One of the excuses that was given (oddly enough) was that Chile was not a country with a "Bolivarian tradition;" something that is undeniable.

The Gaze Fixed on Central America

Recent years have brought about, in rapid succession, the dissolution of several military regimes associated with the Andean Pact: basically, those in Peru and Ecuador and, fleetingly, that of Bolivia as well.

In the latter country, we are a long way from knowing anything definite about its political orientation. There is too strong a leftist sector within the Bolivian Army to warrant certainty about the course of action that the country and any of its future governments will adopt.

At the same time, there has occurred in the hemisphere a serious attempt at destabilization in the Caribbean and Central American area, where old dictatorships (in particular the Somoza or the Duvalier dynasties) afforded, in the case of the former, and are still affording, in the case of the latter, more than sufficient encouragement for the progress of the left.

Faced with the phenomenon of the civil war that erupted in Nicaragua following the Sandinist armed uprising, the Andean Pact resumed playing cards in a game that is very risky from a political standpoint. It was not satisfied with condemning the Somoza regime. In an apparent ignorance of the fact that there are strong, armed subversive groups in each of the countries comprising the bloc (but in Colombia, particularly), it set the dangerous precedent of recognizing for the Sandinists the "status of belligerents, on the same terms as the Somoza regime." It obviously did this because, on the one hand, everything warranted the prediction that the latter regime would fall and, also, because it had the consent of the leftist sector in the State Department in Washington.

Odd Current Selection

Now then, in Washington the leftists are about to pack their bags, although (insofar as El Salvador is concerned, for example) they might have still dealt a final blow on behalf of the leftists who have now been ousted from the government of centrist civilians and conservative military headed by Napoleon Duarte. From all appearances, the latter is in control of the situation and even enjoys the approval of the Church, finally.

But in Washington (where the governing is serious and the people's will is respected) an outgoing administration does not usually deal "blows," and if any subordinate personages attempt to do so, the attempt would fail. Different winds are beginning to blow, so that the Andean Pact and the flexible Colombian leadership (which, on this sesquicentennial Bolivarian anniversary, is acting as host in Santa Marta, where the hero died in 1830) are taking note. The selection of the American presidents going to Santa Marta has proven highly significant.

This time, there was an abandonment of the Bolivarian tradition. Bolivia was not invited in the person of its president, Garcia Meza, who is obviously not considered a genuine representative of his nation. (Incidentally, Garcia Meza has dissociated his country from the Pact.)

As for the other countries related to that tradition (that is to say, linked with the memory of the founding father), the political evolution of the times has dictated that the four leading countries (Colombia, Venezuela, Peru and Ecuador) have constitutional governments of electoral origin, and that the fifth, and lesser one, have one that is somewhat acceptable, in that order.

But the Andean Pact has not ceased to fix its gaze on Central America and the Caribbean, although with a noticeable political equidistance: It has not gone either too far to the "right" (Guatemala), nor too far to the "left" (Nicaragua).

El Salvador, under its new government, and Honduras (under the old one, but getting along well with the brand-new one in El Salvador) have been courted; and Costa Rica,

veteran leader of a centrist democracy, has been courted as well. The same thing holds true for the post-Balaguer Dominican Republic. It is felt that there is no room for either Haiti or Cuba.

We might note, in passing, that the Honduran president, Policarpo Paz Garcia, declined to attend at the last minute.

The Central American countries and the West Indian one whose presidents went to Santa Marta actually had little or nothing do do, directly, with the feat of Bolivar. In any event, it would have been fitting to invite the present rulers of Curacao and Jamaica, both of which are islands on which the hero was briefly exiled.

But this is a commemoration that is related to a political intention: that of replacing the nations of the Pact on the changed map of the continent. Bolivia is not yet considered lost; and it is preferred to ignore the leftist or extreme rightwing regimes north of Panama.

The watchword of the moment is centrism, which is very much suited to the aforementioned flexibility of the country that is acting as host at the "little summit meeting" in Santa Marta.

2909
CSO: 3010

FETRAL DC DENOUNCES EXTREMISM, TOTALITARIANISM

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Dec 80 p 7

[Text of declaration by the Latin American Front of Christian Democratic Workers; dated 21-22 November 1980, in Panama City]

[Text] Panama, 21-22 November 1980.

Declaration

The undersigned labor union leaders of the Latin American Front of Christian Democratic Workers (FETRAL DC), active members of the Social Christian and Christian Democratic parties of Latin American and of the Caribbean, assembled in Panama City on 21 and 22 November 1980, in their executive council, make the following policy declaration to our brother workers in the city and in the countryside, to our people, to the youth and to all those progressive sectors in our Latin American and Caribbean countries.

We are aware once more of the state of repression and violence unleashed by the rightist and leftist dictatorships against the Latin American workers' democratic freedom of speech.

Every effort must be made to achieve Latin American integration. The process of the Andean Subregional Pact is regarded as an important step.

We must struggle to intensify solidarity and defense of human rights in our countries.

We must denounce the attempt at Cubanization being carried out in Nicaragua and the Pinochetization of Bolivia on an unprecedented scale that is attempting to oppose the social and political changes that those peoples are demanding by the democratic route.

We express our support and solidarity to the radical, deep-seated changes being made in our sister country of El Salvador and we condemn the violence that extremists groups on both sides are trying to impose.

We denounce the manipulations being made of information and news about events happening in Latin America as a means of creating destabilization and of giving rise to false solidarity and support of regimes based on force.

Once more, we point to the multinational enterprises as agents of international capitalism and the weapon of the world's imperialisms, which are trying to continue imposing economic models in which man's dignity is trampled upon and violated systematically.

We demand freedom for our comrades held in prison for fighting for justice, freedom and peace of our people throughout Latin America.

We demand full freedom to organize for the workers's movement and the People's Movement as a whole, the sole possible way to undertake a democratic course on the continent, support of responsible participation in and solidarity with all its expressions.

We pledge ourselves to strengthen our Christian-humanist principles and to insert in the heart of our peoples the clean doctrinary banners of the Social Christian Movement.

10,042
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MILITARY STRENGTH OF LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS SURVEYED

Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 18 Dec 80 pp 20-21

[Article: "The Military Might of Latin America"]

[Text] AFP--Three countries are preeminent for their military might among the Latin American nations as a whole: Brazil, which has the largest Armed Forces in the region; Argentina, with the best equipped Armed Forces; and Cuba, with the most experienced Armed Forces, according to inferences drawn from information compiled in the Latin American offices of the French news agency and from material on file in Paris.

Brazil, with a population 12 times larger than that of Cuba and nearly five times that of Argentina, has a military contingent of 272,500 men (113,000 draftees), as compared with 206,000 members of the Cuban Armed Forces, and 139,500 (92,000 draftees) in the Argentine Armed Forces.

Argentina, for its part, is the Latin American country making the leading effort in armament, with defense expenditures of $2.8 billion during 1979, as compared with $2.09 billion spent by Brazil the same year, and $1.1 billion spent by Cuba in 1980, despite the fact that its estimated gross national product is four times less than that of Brazil, but nearly four times larger than that of Cuba.

However, according to the 1980-81 military assessment by the International Institute of Strategic Studies in London, Cuba, with 19,000 troops stationed in Angola, and 16,500 in Ethiopia, is the Latin American military power with the most recent wartime experience in the African theater, inasmuch as the last Brazilian military participation dates back to World War II, on the Italian front, and Argentina's goes back over 100 years, in the War of the Triple Alliance against Paraguay, with Brazil and Uruguay.

2 Million Troops

The Latin American Armed Forces as a whole include some 2 million men, and the region's total defense spending last year amounted to $10 billion, $6 billion of which was attributable to the three aforementioned countries.

A series of pacts and treaties unites the Latin American nations among themselves and with the United States, in the event of attack or threats across borders, established by treaties (the 1945 Act of Chapultepec), for the peaceful settlement of disputes

among nations of the region and for collective self-defense in the event of an external attack on one of its members (Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR], Rio de Janeiro, 1947) and the charter of the Organization of American States, which covers all the stipulations contained in the TIAR.

The only country not participating in the inter-American system is Cuba, which was expelled in 1962. In 1975, the OAS agreed to the normalization of relations between its members and that country.

Moreover, in 1967 25 Latin American countries signed the Treaty of Tlatelolco, banning nuclear weapons in Latin America.

Cuba did not sign the treaty, giving reasons of sovereignty. Argentina did sign it, but never ratified it, and Brazil did so, but with an exception regarding peaceful nuclear explosions.

The United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, France and China, for their part, signed protocol 2 of the treaty, pledging not to threaten nor use nuclear weapons against the parties to the treaty.

Argentine Modernization

The Argentine Armed Forces are at the height of a modernization process. The land Army, which has 85,000 troops, with about 250,000 men in the reserves, although it has 100 American Sherman tanks dating back to World War II, also has 120 French AMX-13 light armored tanks, and the modern TAM (Argentine medium tank) is in full production, with 100 already incorporated.

Argentina recently purchased 50 Austrian Kuerassier antitank vehicles, and has ordered 120 more.

The Navy has a contingent of 33,000 men, and an aircraft carrier (former British improved type) provided with A4Q Skyhawk aircraft; and it was recently announced that 14 Super Etendard combat planes had been purchased from France.

The fleet also includes two modern type 209 submarines of German origin, and another two of American make, dating back to the end of World War II. It has two type 42 destroyers, one armed in Argentina, provided with Sea Dart missiles, and another eight from the United States, as well as two missile carrying frigates purchased in France, and several type 148 rapid patrol boats. The Navy has, in addition, 23 combat planes, to which the 14 Super Etendards will be added.

The Air Force has 19,500 men and 236 combat planes, prominent among which are nine British Canberra bombers, 60 A4B Skyhawk fighter planes, 18 III-E Mirage planes (purchased from France) and 26 Dagger planes(Mirage III, modified by Israel), purchased 2 years ago. It has also ordered an additional eight combat Mirage aircraft from France.

Furthermore, it has about 40 JA-58 Pucara turboprop aircraft, of Argentine make, for tactical backup and counterinsurgency; and it has ordered another 20.

The Armed Forces seized power in 1976 in Argentina, where martial law had prevailed since 1974. The executive branch went to a military president, named by the junta of commanders in chief and subordinate to the latter entity.

Military aid from abroad was reduced considerably after the United States decided to stop the sale of arms to Argentina, owing to the charges made by Washington concerning human rights violations. Argentina is engaged in a border dispute with Chile in the southern region, relating to the sovereignty of three islands at the entrance to the Beagle Canal. This century-old controversy brought Argentina and Chile to the brink of war in the latter part of 1978, after a decision unfavorable to Buenos Aires by the British Crown, a situation that has, incidentally, been surmounted to date, thanks to the intervention of a papal delegate.

Argentina cooperates militarily with neighboring countries (Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia) to which it is in the habit of providing military equipment.

Cuba Is Powerful

The Brazilian Armed Forces, the largest in the region, have attached priority to native technology and Brazilian production for the updating of their weapons, and they have the backing of a modern industrial complex in Sao Jose Dos Santos, in the state of Sao Paulo.

The land Army, with a contingent of 182,758 men, has 60 M-4 medium tanks, a few M-47's, 250 M-41 light tanks and 25 X-1 tanks, and it has ordered 80 X-1A2 medium tanks.

The Brazilian Navy, with 47,000 men, is equipped in particular with a light aircraft carrier, eight submarines, including three Oberons, six frigates, 12 destroyers, and six mine sweepers; and it has no combat aircraft.

The Brazilian Air Force, with 42,800 men, operates with 173 combat planes, including 14 Mirage III and 33 American FSE and five FSB, as well as 70 Xavante (a Brazilian version of the Italian Aeromachi) counterinsurgency planes.

The Brazilian Armed Forces, which seized power in 1964, started a process of political openness in 1979. Brazil has no border disputes with its neighbors, does not receive military aid from abroad and has a military assistance mission in Paraguay.

Cuba is not a signatory of any treaty involving membership in any military bloc, but its Armed Forces have the equipment that is common to the countries which signed the Warsaw Pact, except for strategic bombers and nuclear weapons.

In the event of war, Cuba would mobilize within a week at most a perfectly equipped force consisting of no fewer than a million troops, not counting auxiliary services. At present, it is in the process of establishing the corps of territorial militia units, an institution similar to the one that exists in Yugoslavia and Vietnam.

The Cuban Army, with 180,000 members, has over 600 tanks, including 60 IS-2 heavy ones, T-34/54(?)-55, 50 T-62 medium ones and PT-76 light ones.

The Navy, with 10,000 members, has three Soviet submarines and several patrol and missile launches.

The Air Force, with 16,000 members, has 168 combat planes, including 30 MIG-17, 20 MIG-23, 48 MIG-21F, 30 MIG-21 MF, 40 MIG-19 and 15 MIG-15UTI.

According to the Constitution, the head of state and of the government is the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Raul Castro, who holds the position of first vice president of the Council of State and of the Council and Ministers, and is also minister of the Armed Forces. It is thought that functions similar to those of a national security council are discharged by the Politburo of the Communist Party Central Committee, whose first and second secretaries are Fidel and Raul Castro, respectively.

The USSR donated to Cuba all the equipment supplied during the first 15 years of revolution, but it is understood that the subsequent military aid involved financial compensation.

The Soviet cooperation also applies to the training and advancement of military cadres, and there are in Cuba, moreover, a number of Soviet military specialists consisting of fewer than 5,000.

Venezuela and Defense Spending

Following the three leading military powers in Latin America, Venezuela, with a GNP estimated at $39.3 billion in 1978, is the country which voted for the greatest defense spending in 1980: $804 million.

However, owing to the number of troops, namely, 40,500, the Venezuelan Armed Forces occupy eighth place, after those of Mexico, Peru, Chile and Colombia.

The Venezuelan Army, with 27,000 men, has, in particular, 142 French AMX-30 tanks, 40 AMX-13 light tanks, and 12 American M-8 armored vehicles for all kinds of terrain.

The Navy, with 9,000 men, has four submarines, two of the type 209 German model (two more have been ordered), four armed destroyers with missiles, five frigates, including an Italian Lupo missile carrying frigate received 3 months ago, and five more Lupo frigates which are in the process of manufacture and will gradually be incorporated in 1981.

The Air Force, with 4,500 men, has 99 combat aircraft, including 18 British Canberras, nine Mirage III, 20 F-86 and 18 American CF-5.

Venezuela has a border dispute with Colombia over the demarcation of marine and submarine areas in the Gulf of Venezuela, and a claim pending on the territory of Esequibo involving about 150,000 square kilometers, representing nearly two thirds of the area of Guyana.

It concluded a mutual defense pact with Costa Rica, a country which lacks an army.

Chile Is the Sixth-Ranking Force

Chile, which has the sixth-ranking military force in Latin America, because of its troops, numbering 88,000 (21,600 draftees), spent $726 million on defense during 1979 (its estimated 1978 GNP: $15 billion).

The Army, with 53,000 men (20,000 draftees), has 70 M-4 medium tanks, 10 M-3, 60 M-41 and 47 AMX-13 light tanks.

The Navy, with 24,000 men (1,600 draftees) has, in particular, three submarines (two Oberons), three cruisers, six destroyers, five frigates and three corvettes. It also has 12 combat aircraft.

The Air Force, with 11,000 men, has 84 combat planes, including 16 Hunter F-71, 18 F-5E/F, eight T-33A and 34 A-37B counterinsurgency aircraft. It has ordered 15 Mirage 50 combat planes. Chile arms the Mirage 50 under a license.

The Armed Forces have been in power in Chile since 1973. In addition to its main border problems with Argentina over the Beagle Canal, it has another dispute with Bolivia, which demands an outlet to the sea.

Mexico and Peru

Despite the fact that it has the second largest GNP in the region, estimated in 1978 at $91 billion, Mexico's defense spending in 1979 amounted to $518 million; in other words, it ranked sixth in the region, following Venezuela and Chile.

The Mexican Armed Forces, the fourth largest in Latin America owing to their size, 107,000 men (they also have a militia consisting of partial draftees and numbering 250,000 men) recently began a process of modernization.

In fact, it was not until 1977 that the cavalry started to be replaced by motorized units, with vehicles purchased in the Federal Republic of Germany.

So the Army, with 83,000 regular troops, has only M-3 and M-5 light tanks.

The Navy, with 20,000 men, has old materiel of American origin, including two destroyers, five frigates and 37 corvettes. It also has 13 combat aircraft.

The Air Force, with 4,000 men, has 40 combat aircraft.

The Peruvian Armed Forces rank fifth on the basis of number of troops (95,500, including 49,000 draftees), and seventh on the basis of defense spending: $366 million in 1979 (estimated 1978 GNP: $12.4 billion).

The Army, with 75,000 men (51,000 draftees), has 250 Soviet T-54 and T-55 tanks, and 110 French AMX-13 light tanks, as well as 60 M-4 medium tanks, of American make.

The Navy, with 10,500 men, has, in particular, eight submarines (two of the German type 209), five cruisers, seven destroyers, and six frigates (four of which are Italian Lupos, supplied with missiles and antisubmarine helicopters).

It has ordered another four type 209 submarines. Nearly all the major vessels were built after World War II and modernized upon being purchased by Peru. During the past 3 months, two destroyers with antisubmarine equipment arrived from the Netherlands to replace older units.

The Air Force, with 10,000 men, has 119 combat aircraft, including 32 Canberra, 24 Mirage 5-P and 23 Sukhoi SU-22, of Soviet make. With the exception of the Canberra, this is modern materiel purchased during the past 5 years.

The United States military assistance has been halted since the early 1970's, because the regime of Gen Juan Velasco Alvarado demanded the withdrawal of the American military missions. Peru and Cuba are the only two countries in the region which have Soviet materiel.

Peru has a border dispute with Ecuador concerning the route which the border should follow in the El Condor mountain range, in the Amazon region.

Colombia

The Colombian Armed Forces occupy seventh place in the region on the basis of their troops, numbering 65,800 men, and eighth place on the basis of defense spending, which totaled $215 million in 1979 (estimated 1978 GNP: $14.5 billion).

The Army, with 53,000 men (26,500 draftees) is very poorly equipped, and has only a few M-4A3 medium tanks and M-3A1 light ones.

The Navy, with 9,000 men, has four submarines (two of the 209 type), three destroyers and five American frigates. Except for the two German submarines, the materiel is old.

The Air Force, with 3,800 men, has 18 Mirage combat planes.

In addition to the aforementioned border dispute with Venezuela, Colombia has another one with Nicaragua, which claims the islands of San Andres and Providencia, and the Serrana, Quitasueno and Roncador Keys in the Atlantic.

Of the other South American countries, Ecuador has a military contingent of 38,800, Uruguay's is 30,000, Bolivia's is 23,800 and Paraguay's is 16,000.

In 1979, Ecuador spent $163 million on defense; while Bolivia spent $118 million, Uruguay, $72 million and Paraguay, $41 million.

Ecuador has 40 M-3 tanks, 80 AMX-13 light tanks, two type 209 submarines and 50 combat planes.

The Bolivian Armed Forces have, in particular, 18 Kuerassier antitank vehicles, and 41 combat aircraft, including 18 Xavante counterinsurgency planes of Brazilian make.

The Uruguayan Armed Forces have 17 M-24 tanks, 18 M-3A1 light tanks, three American frigates, two corvettes and 20 combat aircraft.

The Paraguayan Armed Forces have 13 M-4 medium tanks, 12 M-3AL light ones, and 25 combat planes, and have ordered 12 Xavante counterinsurgency aircraft from Brazil.

The supply of weapons to Uruguay has been stopped by the United States, which is of the opinion that the Uruguayan Government has systematically violated human rights. The Armed Forces control the governments in Bolivia and Uruguay.

Central America

In Central America, Costa Rica and Panama have no armies, but maintain paramilitary forces consisting of 5,000 and 11,000 men, respectively.

In Nicaragua, since the bloody war waged against the Somoza regime, the best equipped Army in Central America is thought to exist, thanks to the combination of weaponry of the Sandinists and that captured from the National Guard. The number of military troops is estimated at about 10,000, reinforced by some 40,000 militiamen.

As for the Honduran Army, since the war that it waged in July 1969 against El Salvador, it has embarked on a phase of professionalization, increasing the number of its troops considerably.

The latter's numbers increased from 6,000 to about 11,300, and the defense spending rose to $31.4 million in 1979. The Army has 24 combat planes, including 12 Super Mystery B-2, and it receives United States military aid.

On 30 October of this year, Honduras and El Salvador signed a peace treaty.

El Salvador, where a virtual civil war is under way, has some 7,000 troops in its Armed Forces, and in 1979 spent $72 million on defense. The Armed Forces have 12 AMX-13 light tanks, 17 Huracan aircraft, four Super Mystery aircraft, four Magister, and six Rally counterinsurgency planes. The civilian-military junta governing the country has received sizable military assistance from the United States.

In Guatemala, the Armed Forces have 14,900 men, and this year the country spent $76.8 million on defense. The Armed Forces have a few Stuart light tanks, and 10 combat planes.

The American military aid was stopped in 1978, because of human rights violations. The country cooperates militarily with Colombia, Venezuela, Uruguay and Argentina.

Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras are members of the Central American Defense Council (CONDECA) created several years ago to coordinate the extraterritorial defense of the nations in the area.

The Dominican Republic has 19,000 troops in its Armed Forces, Haiti has 7,500, Jamaica has 4,000, and Guyana has 7,000.

During 1979, their respective defense spending totaled $91 million, $18.4 million, $17 million and $17 million.

2909
CSO: 3010

'HERALD' SEES IDEOLOGICAL SPLIT GROWING IN LATIN AMERICA

PY150052 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 14 Jan 81 p 8

[Text] There is a growing ideological leftwing-rightwing split in Latin America, which could--if events keep moving in the direction that they are at present--eventually cause real tension between nations of Central America and those of the deepest south. The latest drive for power by leftist elements is taking place in El Salvador and the difficulties in that tiny Central American country have reached a virtual state of civil war. Despite Salvadoran Government efforts to play down the extent of the guerrilla thrusts in several cities around the country, casualty figures indicate fierce fighting, with 200 to 300 people having been killed in combat since last Saturday. The Salvadoran army, like Somoza-ruled Nicaragua's national guard before it, is trying hard to give the impression that the fighting is more of a mopping-up operation than a real war, but some observers appear to believe that the rebels will put up a very tough fight and that this is the beginning of a major assault, aimed at wresting power from the civil [words indistinct]. At the same time, guerrilla action is being reinforced by calls from the Democratic Revolutionary Front for supportive general strikes.

The Democratic Revolutionary Front is composed of people whose political leanings range from centrist to extreme leftist. The moderates have obviously been convinced that the only way for a people to get what it wants is to fight for it. What they do not, perhaps, realize is that there were also moderates who believed that they were taking the "right" course in Nicaragua when they gave their support to Sandinist rebels. They were told they would have a share of the "cake" once it was taken from dictator Anastasio Somoza, and for a short time they were tolerated within the new left-leaning administration. But that leaning has become more of a rapid slide in recent months and the true leftists are even more fully in charge.

It is difficult to defend the continuation of a cruelly unjust regime like that of the assassinated Nicaraguan leader, General Somoza--whose family ruled the little country like a private estate for half a century--and it is also difficult for an outsider to fully understand what kind of social pressures might have led to the type of violent rebellion which is currently occurring in El Salvador. But it is not difficult to spot a regional

trend and to realize that pro-Soviet Cuban style Marxism is taking advantage of a volatile situation in order to try to unify the Central American area under a single red flag. Central American countries where unrest is boiling like red-hot lava just beneath the surface, ready to erupt at any moment, are not headed for self-determination of individual nations, but toward a type of ideological [words indistinct], a Marxist bloc lying just beneath the [word indistinct] and separating it from the staunchy rightwing "southern cone." At least, that is the aim of Central American leftists. In Nicaragua the left achieved its objective; in El Salvador it is striving hard for it; in Guatemala unrest continues to grow; Colombia has had to face serious difficulty with extremists. In the "southern cone" Marxism has tried and failed to get a firm grip on power, but it could present a whole new problem for its opponents if it can once form a solid bloc in Central America and regimes like the one here in Argentina which have sworn to reestablish Western style democracy in the future should remain alert to this possible threat so as not to be taken by surprise.

CSO: 3020

BRIEFS

HAITIANS IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC--Monte Plata, 22 Nov--The judge of the court of first instance of Monte Plata has expressed his concern over the influx of Haitian citizens into the Dominican Republic during recent years. When questioned by EL NACIONAL journalists, Dr Miguel Roedan Hernandez stated that it is "disturbing" and lamentable because not only are there Haitians with valid documents but there are also others without any type of documents. The official stated that there are hundreds of Haitian citizens who roam all over the Dominican Republic and have no documents whatever. He said that what is even worse is that they take any name they wish because they come under false names. "Only Haitians named Luis, Yant, Pie and Yambati come here," he stated. Dr Roedan Hernandez pointed out that this is the only country in the world where foreigners walk the streets without any kind of papers. He called this to the attention of the immigration authorities so that they might take action on this matter "since what is happening is deplorable." He blamed this situation on the farmers "who in my judgment are responsible for the Haitians remaining in our country and not being returned to their own when the harvest is completed." [Text] [Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 23 Nov 80 p 16A] 9204

VENEZUELAN-JAMAICAN COOPERATION--Venezuela and Jamaica have decided to reactivate the mixed commission established by the two countries for cooperation in various sectors in 1971, which activities had come to a halt in recent months. Under the Rafael Caldera government, Venezuela had signed an agreement with Jamaica concerning the establishment of this commission. Now according to sources at the Yellow House, a delegation from the Foreign Ministry will travel to Kingston in January to reactivate this body. The decision was the result of the recent visit paid to Jamaica by Amry Touron, the director for international cooperation at the Yellow House. During his visit he met with the new prime minister, Edward Seaga, and other Jamaican authorities for the purpose of "exploring areas of cooperation." Venezuela is of increasing interest to Jamaica, since it is the Caribbean English-speaking island with the largest area. Its prime minister, EL DIARIO DE CARACAS reported recently, has great hope that the Caracas government will aid in overcoming the economic difficulties his country is experiencing. The reactivation of this commission is but one of the various measures being adopted to aid the island. [Text] [Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 18 Dec 80 p 6] 5157

ARGENTINE CROPS TO MEXICO--The president of the National Grain Board, David Lacroze, reported that next Monday the vice president of that agency, Dr Alejandro Ayerza, will sign in Mexico a contract to provide that country with 800,000 to 1 million tons of sorghum and 250,000 to 400,000 tons of soybeans, to be delivered between April and June 1981, in accordance with the trade agreement recently signed by the two nations. Lacroze also discussed the drop in the international price of wheat last month, stating that producers will not be affected because the minimum price set by the Board is still in effect. He maintained that the fall in wheat prices was due to political, not economic, factors; as he indicated recently, the ratio between grain stocks and world demand is the lowest it has been since World War II, so that prospects for production are favorable. "If the political factors persist," he added, "then we will respond with political measures." Finally, he announced that before the end of the year, or in early 1981, all the provisions to implement the new system of marketing by certificates of deposit will be ready. [Text] [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Dec 80 sec 2 p 4] 8926

CSO: 3010

PRESS ITEMS REFLECT VIEWS ON VATICAN'S BEAGLE PROPOSALS

Proposal Seen as Beginning

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Dec 80 p 8

[Editorial: "Towards Peace"]

[Text] Amid widespread expectations and shared hopes the peoples of Chile and Argentina have received the news that Pope John Paul II has delivered his peace proposal to the foreign ministers of the two nations and addressed to them a speech noteworthy for its lofty style, which was both pastoral and diplomatic. It is both a manifestation of religious faith and the remarks of a statesman, inasmuch as the pope is both the supreme authority of the Catholic Church and the head of the Papal State.

The development that we are commenting on is not, of course, peace itself, but rather, as the pope has said, "the beginning of the final stag of arduous and difficult efforts to firmly and definitively establish peace between (your) two countries." We can state that we really are at the beginning of the road towards peace, because although it is true that the two governments have not gone to war over the issue, it cannot be denied that there have been incidents, disagreements, declarations, episodes and movements of troops and air and sea fleets that have raised fears that the worst could come to pass. The mistrust, insecurity and worries that lead to irreconcilably opposed stands by foreign ministries, weapons purchases and feverish diplomatic efforts, mutual criticism and accusations, hostile economic measures and other steps, are not peace, the true total peace so well-defined by the pope through his felicitous use of Saint Augustine's expression "tranquillitas ordinis," which rules out any element of fear or mistrust.

As soon as the papal mediation began, tensions unquestionably diminished and a climate of understanding and harmony between the two governments developed, and this immediately spread to the two peoples, who long for peace, as the speech we are commenting on pointed out so well. But we are still far from peace, the peace that will result from the settling of the ongoing disputes over interests that are not just material but, above all, moral and that have to do with the very existence of the two nations because they involve sovereignty and jurisdiction over the lands and waters that they feel unquestionably belong to them.

Because of its significance in bringing about a satisfactory settlement of the conflict, we cannot fail to emphasize the wisdom that the pope has shown in his approach to this question and in the principles on which he is basing his mediation. He said in his address that he wanted to base his actions on criteria of justice, which cannot be hampered, "because we do not wish to provide grounds for new disputes." But he then goes on to clarify that he does not want to limit himself to the mere application of a legal syllogism derived from texts of laws and treaties, and he has thus added to these criteria of justice "considerations of equity, the realization of which is, to be sure, less easy, but neither can it be overlooked if we are seeking an honorable settlement." In other words, the pope will not content himself with merely reaffirming the arbitrator's decision, because otherwise what we have quoted and the mission that the parties have entrusted him with would make no sense. He goes on to say in this regard that "my suggestion for this dispute is what the old Roman jurists as well as later canonists meant by the expression 'ex bono et aequo,' which signifies that in assessing a series of varying circumstances, diplomacy and human judgment should not omit or overlook the support and the guiding light of divine wisdom." Justice tempered by equity and inspired by divine wisdom is the pope's method of finding a formula for peace.

The only thing that has been disclosed about the peace proposal that the pope handed the foreign ministers came from a statement by Cardinal Samore to the effect that the pope had urged that the Beagle Channel area be "a zone without guns, without weapons and without war preparations." The pope was surely referring to this in his speech when he said that peace is achieved also "by making gestures of peace, inasmuch as practicing peace brings peace." Moreover, this is consistent with the spirit of what the governments agreed to in Montevideo when they requested the papal mediation on 8 January 1979, because their request was accompanied by the pledge that "the two states...will gradually return to the military situation that existed in early 1977," a pledge that was strictly fulfilled by our country, but not Chile, which led us to editorialize about the violations that its government committed. This appeal by the pope is, therefore, timely, and it will surely be observed by our government and by the Chilean Government, to judge by its foreign minister's favorable response to the address it contains.

Exaggerated optimism would be as bad as a predisposition to the failure of the papal mediation. The peace proposal must be carefully examined by the two governments, which will then disclose their views in the agreed upon form and manner. It is much more difficult to build peace than to provoke war, because it entails overcoming prejudice, lack of understanding, mistrust, misconceptions and at times, as history shows, the egoism and vanity of leaders. Offsetting all of these unavoidable and real obstacles born of the nature of things and contributing to peace in this case are factors that we feel will be decisive: the spirit of brotherhood and understanding that prevails; the sameness of our loftiest permanent interests; the example and the memory of heroes and glorious undertakings that we share. None of the supreme assets and none of the truly great intentions of nations can be achieved without effort and sacrifice. The peoples of Chile and Argentina must be willing to make them so that they can continue moving forward towards peace.

Possibility of Referendum Broached

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Dec 80 pp 1, 6

[Article by J. Iglesias Rouco: "Getting Things Moving Again"]

[Excerpt] Several military and civilian circles that have misgivings about the extraordinary concessions that Argentina would have to make to give positive consideration to the pope's "proposal" for the Beagle issue, now think (somewhat surprisingly for these groups) that the government's next response ought to be submitted to a subsequent referendum or at least consultation with the various political groups. This would take place once the principle of the ocean division and the "reinsurances" or the projects for Argentine "insular presence" in the so-called "peace zone" or its environs are "technically" concluded. According to our sources, however, the government and many Armed Forces commands, which at one time felt that a referendum could represent a last resort for its peace policy, now feel that such a mechanism would in the short run be not only "unnecessary" and "contradictory" but also a conditioning factor for General Viola's presidency and the second phase of the process.

Thus, at their meeting today at the Army Chief Command, General Viola and the Military Junta will examine only the "technical adjustments" of the "proposal," which the pope has left completely in the hands of the two governments. As far as we know, the "proposal" does not make detailed reference to the specific elements on the basis of which these "adjustments" will be made (the practical functioning of the "peace zone" and Argentine territorial "reinsurances" for preserving its sovereignty in the Atlantic, with any Chilean penetration into its waters ruled out), but these make up precisely the main "package" from the negotiations in the Vatican and on which there is already an agreement. The only thing that the two governments have to do now is put the agreement on paper. Thus, the proposal serves as a sort of engine and steering wheel for the converging course accepted by Buenos Aires and Santiago, not as a sort of vehicle body.

As far as the idea of a referendum is concerned, it is not being expressly abandoned; it is simply being allowed to float or "rest." The following are the apparently prevailing views that the government has recently been discussing with regard to this issue: 1) Both the Argentine and the Chilean people have come out for peace, as evidenced by the mass rallies organized by the Church in October and November; 2) The two nations have formally pledged, as reiterated a few days ago in Rome by the two foreign ministers, not to use force under any circumstances; 3) A referendum or a system of consultations would unquestionably have political overtones (which has nothing at all to do with the Beagle issue) for the entire process and could become a divisive factor and even the catalyst for the "premature and artificial" appearance (the words of an important official) of political groups that would try to force through a general political approach at variance with the present one.

New Political Developments

Nevertheless, this view is only part of the politico-strategic reasoning that prevails at the moment in decisionmaking centers. According to our informants, the other part could be expressed in the following terms: A referendum or consultation is still a significant tool for peace pacts with Chile and the immediate triumph of the mediation. It does not have to be utilized now, since the Church has thrown its entire weight into the matter. It should not taken out of the picture (by express statements in this regard), in case its "new" sponsors manage in the future to start up a major movement against an agreement with Chile. In short, if it one day becomes necessary (whether in January 1981 or later), the idea of a referendum could be brought up again by those who initially developed it.

This does not mean that there are not going to be major political developments in the waning days of 1980 or in early 1981. According to our sources, exactly the opposite could happen. In this connection, it would be the economy that would be in the news first.

National Interests Underscored

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Dec 80 p 11

[Article by Manfred Schonfeld: "The Pope's Proposal Should Be Evaluated According to Its Content, Without Regard for Its Origin"]

[Text] The time has come to inform the Argentine public that under the cloak of respectability offered by the pope's mediation, our government (without even bothering to let the country know, as it is accustomed to doing whatever it pleases behind our backs) might be on the verge of seriously compromising the nation's territorial and patrimonial future in connection with the Chilean border issue.

Reports from reliable sources, as well as what we can logically gather from what seems to be a sort of "psychological preparation" (not to say "brainwashing") to which the public has been subjected in recent months, indicate that what the Vatican has proposed, after arduous mediation efforts (which were certainly praiseworthy in their aim of preserving peace and the traditionally friendly relations between the two countries), is merely, in general terms, a reaffirmation of the arbitration decision by Her Majesty the Queen of England, with the likely addition of several provisions that would restrict, but not disavow, some degree of Chilean jurisdiction in the south Atlantic.

This would entail the virtual discarding of the principle of an oceanic division, regardless of whether subsequent measures and agreements on "implementation" attach to such jurisdiction a purely peaceful nature and grant our country some sort of idealistic sovereignty over the southern waters (south of the Beagle) of the Atlantic, but without the real foothold entailed in the ownership of land. By this I mean the kind of ownership that is used, unavoidably, as a basis for gaging territorial waters, maritime jurisdiction and, in the latest law of the sea terminology, "zones of economic interest."

A False Dilemma

Since, as it seems increasingly clear, our recent governments were not skillful enough in dealing with this issue in the diplomatic sphere (I am talking here about the efforts of both Lanusse's and Peron's regimes in Geneva and London and those of the current authorities vis-a-vis Santiago and the Vatican itself), the Argentine Foreign Ministry and, above all, the president and the Military Junta have chosen to resort to an expedient that I cannot but describe as misleading to public opinion. With the full cooperation of the Catholic Church hierarchy and of lay circles close to it, the false impression was gradually created in the minds of citizens that we were faced with the dilemma of "either accepting the pope's proposal or resorting to war."

Other Means That Were Not Used

Now then, it is not true that war, at least armed war, is the only way to rectify the effects of an arbitration decision that went unfairly against us.

A powerful country like ours (especially in economic terms, and in fact much more powerful than the nation on the other side of the Andes) could well have exerted truly effective pressure on Chile.

There are entire areas of our neighbor that depend on trade with Argentina for their mere everyday subsistence. We hardly even threatened to use economic pressure, which if intelligently applied would have certainly perhaps yielded better results than saber rattling or the hair-splitting talks in the corridors of the Vatican.

According to Clausewitz, war can be one of the ways of pursuing political action, but it is indeed not the only one, especially if we bear in mind that our side had not even begun political action "per se."

Furthermore, and since I have mentioned Clausewitz, let us recall one of Raymond Aron's paraphrases of Clausewitz' philosophy when he argued that the Prussian philosopher of war "clearly stated that victory applies only to the area of tactics, whereas at the level of strategy and politics, we should think in terms of means and ends."

Referring to an American analyst of the Vietnam war, Aron goes on to say that "like Clausewitz, he distinguishes between brute force, which is comparable to exploding a bomb, and the intelligent and calculated use of force to achieve certain objectives."

We should ask ourselves whether such a use of our legitimate force, intelligently and calculatedly, has been exhausted (I am convinced that the government did not even begin to think about it) now that we are being strongly led to believe that if the pope had not intervened, we would be confronting Chile with weapons in hand.

"No" to the Pope?

One of the public statements that is part of the psychological campaign that I mentioned might exist was Brigadier General Graffigna's widely reported comment that "you cannot say 'no' to the pope."

The commander in chief of our Air Force is right if what he meant to say was that the pontiff is not simply a chief of state or just another political leader and that, therefore, we cannot belittle his sincere and noble efforts (regardless of how his advisers interpreted the matter) for a happy and just outcome to a conflict between two nations that are both predominantly Catholic.

We must not take it for granted, however (as I am becoming convinced that our government is doing and would like the Argentine people to do as well), that a willingness not to belittle necessarily entails an unquestioning acceptance of the Vatican proposal.

We must not forget that neither Chile nor Argentina accepted the pontiff as an arbitrator, but rather merely as a mediator. Now then, the mediation was carried out with dignity, and peace and smooth relations between the parties that turned to the Vatican were preserved.

The task before us, hence, is to continue the process on our own, by carefully weighing what Rome has proposed to the two sides.

The Argentine Government ought to evaluate the content of the proposal exclusively in terms of the nation's interests, without regard for the origin of the proposal.

No Argentine Government is morally entitled to unnecessarily hand over national territory that it ought to be preserving for future generations of Argentines.

Government Secrecy Scored

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Dec 80 p 1

[Article by J. Iglesias Rouco: "The Results of Secrecy"]

[Text] The least that can be said about the pope's "proposal" for the Beagle issue is that it has not been too enthusiastically received by the top echelons of government, but neither has it been received with such discouragement, we are told emphatically, that the success of the mediation effort is in imminent danger. In this connection, what is happening here is exactly the opposite as in Chile, where the authorities cannot hide their satisfaction. Nonetheless, the circles I have consulted continue to assert that Buenos Aires will give a positive response to the "proposal" when the inevitable series of requests for clarifications from the Vatican has been completed.

According to my sources, the section of the "proposal" concerning the specific situation in the Beagle Channel satisfies only "very partially" Argentina's

"minimum" aspirations. It also reportedly contains an outline for general cooperation in the future that transcends the southern area and that could commit Argentina to a given economic and strategic course of "vague limits" or which in some cases would not be consistent with the objectives of its present foreign policy. Argentina's rights in the South Atlantic, with Chilean influence ruled out, are reportedly provided for in the "proposal," but in the judgment of Buenos Aires, such rights and exclusions will have to be stressed as a "principle" more unequivocally, more firmly and in greater detail than in the current plan from Rome. The clarifications that the military committee and the junta reportedly decided to request from the Vatican yesterday will unquestionably focus on these matters.

The system of consultations between Buenos Aires, Santiago and Rome, which was set in motion just yesterday, will not be in full swing until between the end of this week and the middle of the next. Then, perhaps, we will learn, officially or unofficially, of the government's initial impressions, which until a few hours ago, I repeat, were marked by a good degree of concern. As far as the text of the "proposal" or agreement is concerned, it will become completely known only when everything has been concluded, except in the event of some unforeseen development.

In general, the outlook, while not bleak, is not too promising, especially for the sectors of the government that tried so hard in recent months to wind up this matter before 29 March. What these and other sectors are reportedly trying to establish now with the Vatican and with Chile is a longer period of "instrumental" negotiations subsequent to the signing of the so-called "model agreement," as had initially been envisioned in Rome just before the pope revealed his "proposal" to the two governments. In addition to facilitating further clarifications of each point in dispute, such a period would bolster the internal position of those who favor "peace with sacrifices" and at the same time would not prevent the "model agreement" from becoming "definitive" in February or March. But as far as we know, the Vatican, the Chilean Government and the Argentine Church are applying strong pressure to have this period eliminated from the provisions of the "model agreement" or in any case earmarked solely for the creation of secondary mechanisms for the cooperation system in the "peace zone" (which in practice would encompass all of the border areas), as well as lesser Beagle issues.

Therefore, the domestic political task of the government and Armed Forces groups that unhesitatingly back the idea of signing the agreement before 29 March has become more difficult. These groups, which are still headed up by the president, cannot, as a result, dispense with in advance or unconditionally an instrument such as a referendum, which (as if this were not enough) is also being wielded, and somewhat unexpectedly, by the people who held a more intransigent or, as it were, less pressured position on the negotiations of recent months. The fact that Chile and even the Vatican have ruled this out only complicates the position of the more flexible factions of the Argentine Government.

It is for this reason that Mr Bittel's statements, for example, against the "proposal" being submitted to a referendum have not been well received in the

by any of the groups. Given internal political conditions and the extent of the sacrifices, our leaders cannot rule out a sharing of responsibility with the people so hastily, even though this continues to be regarded as a last resort and perhaps ultimately, but only perhaps, unnecessary.

The bad thing is that the Peronist politician's statements could be interpreted by the intransigents as an attempt at indirect pressure, fueled by those who are inclined to accept the pope's suggestion without further ado. When earthly matters are involved, even the most obedient Catholics tend to wait for the pontiff to repeat his "suggestions" two or three times.

The government's uneasiness or faint jubilation over the results of 2 years of mediation surely contain a not-to-be-underestimated element of political theatrics aimed at securing last minute "adjustments" and, in Argentina's case mainly, at making the losses more bearable to the public. Those who failed to inform their people fully ought to now feel obliged to show that they are as worried as they are resigned. Rome was told "yes" some time ago. What led to secrecy among those in power here unfortunately had very little to do with the power of secrecy in an international negotiation.

Cardinal Aramburu Comments

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Dec 80 pp 1, 6

[Christmas sermon delivered by Cardinal Juan Carlos Aramburu at the Cathedral; date not given]

[Excerpt] Papal Mediation

"At this moment in 1980 the entire country is witnessing a development of extraordinary significance that brings with it the great benefits of peace. Just as the people of Israel 20 centuries ago waited with expectation for the arrival on earth of the heralded prince of peace, our lord and God, Jesus Christ, the spirit of the Argentine people is today marked by ardent expectations of the peace that will be achieved through the authorized mediation of the holy father, Pope John Paul II.

"The happy moment would seem to be drawing near of a calm, honorable and peaceful settlement that in the present case will guarantee us what Pius XI called 'an essential element in the common good' and what Pius XII described as 'a priceless asset, more precious than all treasures,' this being none other than peace itself.

"In his recent message to the world, His Holiness John Paul II said that peace will be able to fulfill the hope of the world because it will be constructed of justice and based on the incomparable dignity of man.

"We must basically consider that this man of God, in his mediation efforts, has unquestionably taken into account, according to his conscience, the justice and human dignity of the two peoples in recommending and calling for, as the spiritual father of both nations, mutual renunciations and sacrifices for the sake of national and international peace.

"We are going to ask the Christ child to aid those who now have the responsibility of studying the holy father's response, so that the outcome is a definite no to violence and a definitive, generous and categorical yes to the noble cause of international peace.

"Although these will be official state agreements, they will not for this reason be ethereal, far-off and extraterrestrial. Let us not forget that Jesus Christ came to bring peace to men and to nations by planting its roots, which are based on truth, justice, liberation and love, in the deepest and noblest part of human beings, that is to say, their minds and hearts.

"All of this involves a sincere effort to adhe[illegible] the truth and to turn the heart towards the loftier goods that are demand[illegible] the dignity of the human person who is aware of his temporal and etern[illegible]ny. Only in this way will we achieve true growth and continued overa[illegible]rogress among men and nations in the search for and development of a better world, a world that we all eagerly yearn for and are trying to develop.

Let Us Not Forget

"May the infant God make this Christmas season, which we will try to live in sincerity and love, an auspicious preparation for the historic joy of receiving and evaluating the suggestions and proposals of the father of Christianity. Let us not forget that he himself is certainly seeking only the good of his children and that if sacrifices that are not material to the dignity of the country are required, sacrifices that will logically be made by both parties to the mediation, these sacrifices will be positively compensated for and more than repaid by the immense good entailed in peace and harmony between nations.

"If peace is thus achieved, it will be blessed not only by the present generation but also by future generations that will be enlightened by history. History, the impartial teacher of nations, will thus portray the efforts at peace by the men who presently have the responsibility to deliberate calmly and patriotically, in order to provide the Argentine people with what is best for their invaluable common good. We will thus have warded off, once and for all, the uneasiness of potential armed conflicts, which materially and psychologically overwhelm nations.

"May these celebrations be to all an opportunity for intense joy in the child Jesus, born in Bethlehem. May this spirit enliven the happiness of these Christmas celebrations."

Naval Operations Commander Comments

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 18 Dec 80 p 22

[Text] Ushuaia, (TELAM)--"I think that all of us, Argentines and Chilean alike, are going to give up something, but we are going to gain something much more important, cooperation between our two countries and peace," said the commander of naval operations, Vice Adm Pedro Antonio Santamaria, before leaving this capital city of Tierra del Fuego for his service post.

Vice Admiral Santamaria had arrived in Ushuaia around noon to install the new commander of the southern naval region, Capt Nicolas J.E. Piccaluga.

'If We Agree Willingly'

When asked for his opinion of the current Vatican proposal, he said: "I am not familiar with the details, but I have no doubt that it represents a very strong hope. On account of where it has come from and from the way in which it was presented by the pope, this hope for peace obviously has to be a solution, and it is going to be a solution to the extent that we all agree willingly to give up something."

In light of his upcoming retirement, he was asked about his impressions upon leaving the ranks of the navy. "To say that I am leaving the navy is a lie," he replied. "I am never going to leave it. It is something that you carry inside you, and by my own right, in fact, I am not going to let them take it away from me."

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ZORREGUIETA REVIEWS DEVELOPMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL SECTION

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 27 Dec 80 Sec 3 pp 1-2

[Report on interview with Secretary of Agriculture and Livestock Jorge Zorrequieta; date and place not given]

[Text] As the year 1980 approaches its end and a new team of men gets ready to take over the leadership of the nation, we feel it is time to assess what has happened in the agricultural sector from the point of view of the public and private sectors.

For this purpose we interviewed Secretary of Agriculture and Livestock Jorge Zorreguieta, whose statements appear below.

Fundmental Changes

"The summary of what has been accomplished during this period of nearly 5 years," begins Secretary Zorreguieta, "includes two efforts, really: that of Dr Mario Cadenas Madariaga and my own. I feel," he adds, "that I can speak with a certain degree of freedom about Dr Cadenas Madariaga's administration, because I was assistant secretary of agriculture under him. I have always understood that my administration was a continuation of the work he began.

"During these years some fundamental changes have been made in the rules of the game in this sector," adds Zorreguieta. "In early 1976 we were faced with a closed economy that isolated the nation from the rest of the world. The result was the stagnation of the Argentine economy and a deterioration of its international position. This situation was manifested in the sacrifice of agricultural exports, especially from the humid pampa (cereals, grains, meat, wool), through export duties, the prohibition of certain exports, import duties and the prohibition of the importation of manufactured goods in general.

"This process was reversed dramatically: Export duties were cut to practically nothing, and the ban on exports of certain products such as oleaginous seeds was eliminated. This resulted in a substantial change which was clearly reflected in production figures for cereals and oleaginous seeds for this whole period. In the first 3 years, the figure topped 30 million tons, and while there was a drop at the end, it was due exclusively to climatic factors, not to any actions by producers."

Marketing Plan

"Another issue that I think is important to point out," continues Secretary Zorreguieta, "is the reform of the marketing plan, which was still completely in government hands with respect to the principal grains. We gradually deregulated the components of the fine grain harvest until we had taken them all out of government hands, as the producers had insistently demanded.

"The National Grain Board thus changed its function; instead of purchasing grains, it took on the responsibility of internal control and supervision and external trade promotion. When circumstances so required, it also acted to maintain national production.

"During this period import duties were reduced so as to encourage competitiveness between imported and nationally produced goods on the local market. I believe," stresses Secretary Zorreguieta, "that this is a revolutionary development in Argentina. Although it brought about growing pains and tension among the different parts of the private sector, which is perfectly understandable, it has also brought about a drastic change in structures. This change is necessary, because we cannot lose ground in this sector. The economies of the world are highly interrelated," he goes on to say, "and we must bear in mind that a process of economic liberalization goes hand in hand with the rationalization of production in order to achieve higher quality and thus greater competitiveness and larger quantities. That is, it brings about a more realistic economic structure."

Not Perfect or Complete

"This entire process," asserts the secretary, "has been neither perfect nor complete. There are still sectors where not as much progress has been made, as for example in the automobile industry (including cars and trucks as well as other important elements produced in the country). The liberalization process has not been satisfactory in this sector. The result has been internal imbalances and some negative effects on the process. In addition, there are other aspects of the economy, especially in the services sector, which are not subject to foreign competition and therefore have not seen the need to lower prices as other sectors have done. There was a change in relative prices which I regard as positive," concludes Zorreguieta, "but that change did not take place throughout the economy.

"The process also suffered the effects of the battle against inflation, which forced the government to take drastic measures. This, in addition to the large increase in the reserves of the Central Bank, led to an upward revaluation of the Argentine peso. The result was lower revenues for the exportable goods producers, and all goods produced in the country, whether industrial or agricultural, were subjected to fierce competition from foreign imports.

"This was one of the most salient aspects of the period. The agricultural sector suffered severe consequences, especially in areas such as fruits, vegetables and dairy products. This factor had a negative impact on farm profits."

Financial Policy

"Another important decision made during this period was the modification of the financial policy, with the liberalization of interest rates, both payable and receivable. This decision gave a strong impetus to private sector savings, but caused a considerable surge in the cost of money. That factor, combined with the problem of inflation (which persisted, but to a lesser degree) and the revaluation of the peso, had an important impact on agricultural costs.

"The liberalization process," asserts Zorreguieta, "has a specific end: to achieve the efficiency necessary to permit economic expansion and progress.

"And this is a one-way street, although there will be some temporary imbalances.

"I believe," he goes on to say, "that the revaluation of the peso and the high interest rates are the two factors that have limited agricultural profits and have restricted producers' development. I repeat, however, that this is only temporary.

"I have always maintained that the current situation should not make us lose sight of the great structural change, which transcends the present problems that we are all aware of."

Important Reforms

"During this period," states Secretary Zorreguieta, "we have tried to reform important institutions linked to the agricultural sector: We amended the Meat Act in order to limit state intervention; we amended the Grain Act, allowing for greater participation by the private sector in the construction of terminal elevators in the ports, which is revolutionary in Argentina because the state monopoly on the administration of terminal silos has been broken (the repercussions of this decision can only be fully appreciated in the medium term); we also amended the Rural Rental Act, eliminating regulations that were designed to protect only one of the contracting parties and thus in effect did away with renting as an institution in this country.

"A short time ago," he adds, "we finished the Tax Elimination Law, which stimulates investment in areas of low productivity. The new legal mechanism comes into effect with the implementation of the two regulatory decrees and the corresponding resolutions by the Secretariat of Agriculture.

"We have also drafted reforms to the Federal Meat Act, the Brand and Trademark Act and the National Parks Act. We have proposed regulations for soil and animal conservation, all initiatives aimed at putting the state in a more secondary role, and respecting private property rights and private initiative in the economy.

"Another positive achievement of the period," states Zorreguieta, "is the integration of the boards of directors of the Grain and Meat Boards and that of the National Institute of Agricultural and Livestock Technology (INTA), which has permitted the direct participation of producers in the management of these important institutions."

Presence in Argentina

"Interesting progress has been made in the plan to counteract foot-and-mouth disease and to improve the quality of vaccines. A scheme for the promotion of agriculture in Patagonia has been advanced, and intensive measures were taken to ensure Argentina's presence in the world as a producer and exporter of food on the one hand, and a distributor of technology to help countries in America, Asia and Africa on the other hand. This technology," he adds, "is much in demand, and can be an important tool for political friendship and economic understanding, as I was able to see personally in Kenya and Saudi Arabia, for example.

"The country should attach great importance to this issue," stresses Zorreguieta, "because the transfer of technology promotes the sale of our agricultural and industrial products, which are simpler than those produced in the highly industrialized countries and therefore are more easily adapted to the needs of developing nations."

The secretary goes on to say: "During the administration of Dr Cadenas Madariaga as well as during my term in office, we have made intensive efforts in the provinces, first through meetings with the ministers, and later through the Federal Agriculture Council, which has enabled us to have a better understanding with the provinces and to study the difficult problems of regional production."

With reference to the possibilities for our products on foreign markets, Zorreguieta asserts that they are affected by the market conditions, which in turn are influenced by political factors and climatic contingencies that have distorted the normal process of supply and demand in the world, and particularly the price mechanism.

"If the world political situation can be overcome," claims Zorreguieta, "I have no doubt that the prices of cereals will be on the rise once more; with regard to meat, whose exports have fallen from more than 700,000 tons to 450,000 tons due to economic-financial difficulties in the local packing industry and the restrictions resulting from the increase in oil prices, I am also optimistic. We are seeing certain indications of a greater demand for meat in other countries, and I think these trends will be strengthened in 1981. We will have a more active market than we had in 1980.

"Moreover, this year we were severely damaged by the EEC's decision to subsidize meat exports and to interfere in our traditional markets with artificially low prices. Along these lines," concludes Zorreguieta, "Argentina has already filed claims with the Community, and I will personally deal with this issue next month in Europe."

Reorganization of Secretariat

At the conclusion of our interview, the secretary of agriculture indicated that he is working on a plan to reorganize the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock in light of the experience of these past years. He feels the future administration should learn from that experience.

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SOWN AREA EXPECTED TO REACH 26 MILLION HECTARES IN 1981

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Dec 80 Sec 2 p 8

[Text] Secretary of Agriculture and Livestock Jorge Zorreguieta gave an account of the accomplishments of his administration during a banquet held in honor of the journalists accredited to the Secretariat to mark the end of the year.

Zorreguieta was accompanied by the assistant secretaries of the different areas and authorities of the agencies that make up the Secretariat.

The official indicated that 1980 was a difficult year from the agricultural point of view, due to, among other things, the droughts and floods, and the logical consequences of a period of economic adjustment. "We should recognize," he stated, "(that) the burden fell to a great extent on the shoulders of the producers of exportable goods, and all those activities subject to foreign competition."

He asserted that during such a complicated year, the Secretariat acted with an understanding attitude. He added, "We have already passed the lowest point of the curve, and unless there are extreme conditions in the world, 1981 promises to be a good year for Argentine agriculture."

Accomplishments

With reference to the accomplishments of his administration, he indicated that strong measures were taken to achieve a worldwide position as a producer and exporter of foodstuffs, and to bring about effective cooperation in agricultural production with developed nations such as the United States, Australia, England and other European nations, and to help other developing nations in Africa, Asia and America to improve their methods of production.

Then he went on to discuss grains, an area in which "the development of prices has been very satisfactory," he indicated, "although severe weather conditions led to a loss of approximately 1 million hectares due to the drought suffered by productive zones, especially in the west."

Coarse Grain Harvest

With regard to the coarse grain harvest, he pointed out that the area under cultivation is greater than it was last year: by 27 percent in sorghum and

9 percent in corn, with a 9.5 percent drop in the area planted in soybeans, and a 20 percent drop in sunflowers.

"In general," he remarked, "we feel we can achieve a total sown area of about 21 million hectares. If we have normal rains, we will have a very good coarse grain harvest, whose results will benefit the country in the second quarter of next year."

He then announced that the Executive Branch had just approved a new National Parks Act, and that a new set of regulations covering animal conservation is being considered by the Office of the President.

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HEAVY RAINS SLOW DOWN GRAIN HARVEST IN SOUTHERN REGION

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 22 Dec 80 p 16

[Text] Bahia Blanca--The unusual weather conditions of the last days of spring led to a certain delay in the harvest of fine grains for the 1980-81 season in the area. Rain, on the one hand, and low temperatures on the other, prevented farmers from carrying out their normal work.

The rain, while not intensive locally, caused a temporary halt in harvesting because the ground was so soft that harvesting machinery could not be moved. The low temperatures, with highs below 20 degrees during the last 4 days, impeded the development of sown land at the peak of the growing season. In addition to these factors, in some areas there was hail. In the areas affected an evaluation is being carried out in order to determine the amount of damages. Although it is not expected that the damages will amount to much, they will contribute to another disappointing harvest.

At any rate, the general situation is satisfactory, except for a few districts such as Carmen de Patagones. The grain harvest will be stepped up this week, as long as the turnabout in the weather observed yesterday continues.

It is significant that last Wednesday in Bahia Blanca the low temperature was 2 degrees, only 24 hours after the thermometer topped 30 degrees. That sudden drop in temperatures led farmers to fear the disastrous consequences of a freeze, but fortunately that did not happen.

Agricultural Report

In general, the climatic factors of recent days in this region have favored agricultural and livestock activity, according to the usual communique released by Ferrocarril General Roca. The report stresses that during the above-mentioned period there were light rains amounting to very few millimeters.

The favorable conditions of the soil, according to the report, allowed for the beginning of plowing and sowing of summer fodder. It also says that construction is just about finished on the fire roads in natural fields and sown lands. The roads are built as a security precaution.

With regard to the harvest of fine grains, which is currently in progress, yields to date are considered satisfactory, and the quality of the grain is also good. Early sunflower plantings are developing well. Pastures are in good condition in general, which means that livestock will be well fattened with such good supplies of feed.

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FARMERS PREFER CORN, SORGHUM PLANTING TO SOYBEANS

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 16 Dec 80 p 26

[Text] The area to be cultivated in soybeans this season will reach 1.9 million hectares, which means a decrease of 9.5 percent from the 2.1 million hectares of last season. Comparing the first figure with the averages of the last 5- and 10-year periods, one can see increases of 55.9 and 166.6 percent, respectively.

This information was provided by the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock, which indicates that several factors have led to the drop in cultivated land. "In the first place," says the official report, "the 1979-80 harvest did not yield the expected results, because the rains that occurred during the harvest led to significant losses in volume and commercial quality. An indirect consequence of this fact was the shortage of seeds suitable for sowing (a decrease in the cultivation value). Because this is a delicate crop, and it does not leave behind usable stubble," the report goes on to say, "many producers in the region west of Buenos Aires are reportedly abandoning soybeans in favor of corn and sorghum."

It was also pointed out that this oleaginous seed has experienced an expansion in those provinces at the expense of those grains. "In the main soybean region, to the north of Buenos Aires and south of Santa Fe," the report adds, "a similar phenomenon was taking place with regard to the first planting of soybeans, so the importance of the area cultivated in wheat would indicate that the second planting of soybeans on top of the stubble of fine grains, would increase considerably."

Here is the approximate amount of land under cultivation in each province, with the percentage of change from the last season in parentheses: Santa Fe, 1.9 million hectares (-10 percent); Cordoba, 400,000 (+16.6 percent); Buenos Aires, 356,000 (-24.3 percent); Tucuman, 78,000 (-8.2 percent); Santiago del Estero, 43,400 (-0.7 percent); Entre Rios, 33,000 (-17.5 percent); Corrientes, 30,000 (-37.5 percent); and other provinces, 59,600 (-15.2 percent).

The official report stresses that these figures may change as a result of the second planting of soybeans, which has not yet begun. It adds that if the current figures on land under cultivation are confirmed, they will be the second highest in the last 20 years.

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PLN LEADER DISCUSSES BUDGET DEBATE, COUP RUMORS

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 3 Dec 80 p 11

[Interview with Armando Arauz Aguilar, head of the National Liberation Party [PLN], by Wilmer Murillo in the column "Political Wednesdays in the Republic"; date and place not given]

[Text] Just last Saturday the Legislative Assembly approved the 1981 national budget. Within the framework of the great national effort being exerted to lower costs, an important role was played by the National Liberation Party's parliamentary group headed by Armando Arauz Aguilar.

LA REPUBLICA interviewed Arauz on various subjects of interest in connection with the budget debate. His replies indicated that his opinions are: that Mario Echandi made an important contribution to streamlining the budget; that the fight to lower costs had only begun; and that unjust criticism was heaped upon his group.

In the political sector, it was his opinion that Calderonism fell apart in the most important part of the budget proceedings and that his party opted to obtain general reductions and policies which it will guarantee, rather than provoke heated debates which would contribute to the sabotaging of the budget.

Arauz also said in regard to an alleged coup d'etat that no initiative along those lines will be originated in National Liberation quarters.

The interview with Armando Arauz Aguilar follows:

[Question] Is Mario Echandi the grand architect of the budget cuts?

[Answer] Mario Echandi made an important contribution to this budget streamlining process. There is no doubt that he and his assistants had made a very detailed study of the draft. However, on the other hand, the PLN parliamentary group had a minority mandate which contributed effectively to the budget modification process. For us, the general policies were as important or more important than the cuts themselves. So much so that I fought as hard as I could so that after approval of the package motion, which contained the cuts, time would be taken to examine the motions on general policies. The deputies--very few, of course--who during the full session spoke for the president, were precisely on the other side of the question. The president realized that if we were successful in approving the pro-

posed policies, the budget was going to be an instrument to put a brake on the government's abuses. Despite the obstructionist efforts of the government through its unconditionally supportive deputies, we were able to approve several policies which are very important. Exemption was given to banks and other important entities of the country with respect to the requirement to purchase state bonds in an amount equal to 10 percent of their budgets. We approved a policy which puts a brake on the government's use of bank credit. By means of a policy we established the bases for a committee to prepare a true, overall tax reform. We established a norm which forces the Office of the Comptroller to set up a system for evaluating the results of the government's programs and which at the same time calls upon it to implement a check system to determine whether civil servants are working in the positions to which they were appointed. Additionally, we established a committee to study the problem of exemptions in-depth and a committee to study the way to transform the specific headings into a system of capital investments to promote community, municipal and regional development. Also, policies which now give great discretionary authority to the president to do and undo the budget by decree were limited in such a way that only by violating the legal structure can the government distort the 1981 budget. It is clear that the dilatory tactics which the government put in operation through its deputies prevented additional cuts or the approval of policies, for example, to liquidate the infamous compensation fund of the Budgetary Authority which is unconstitutional from all standpoints. The government also prevented a vote on the motion to cut the budget by 10 percent. In any event, the fight has not ended, and we will resume it anytime an opportunity presents itself. For now, we believe that a step in the right direction has been taken.

[Question] What real cuts were made in the budget?

[Answer] I have been told by comrades who worked intensively on budget matters that real cuts should be in the neighborhood of 400 million colones. The rest are cuts which were made in the public debt. Basically, what they are doing is to decrease the financial deficit of the budget.

[Question] And what is the amount of the approved budget?

[Answer] The real amount is approximately 9.5 billion colones. A reduction of 1.1 billion colones was made.

[Question] How much is the fiscal deficit?

[Answer] The fiscal deficit is 700 million colones lower since the budget cuts. However, some deputies feel that the deficit will be equal to or greater than the one initially calculated, inasmuch as real or current revenues were overestimated by the president. The restrictive measures adopted by the government in the month of September will have a negative impact upon revenues, something which was not foreseen when revenues were calculated. The Office of the Comptroller reported this on a timely basis. All of this implies that the task of streamlining the budget to make it an instrument in line with the realities of the national economy is beginning.

[Question] In your party, there are many persons who are dissatisfied with the way that the parliamentary group you head presents its opposition. Do you feel that these are just criticisms?

[Answer] There are always persons in the PLN who are critical of the parliamentary group. I would say that it is very difficult to provide leadership of this group acceptable in general to every faction of the party.

[Question] In the case of the budget, did your party abandon its principles when it rejected the mandate of the minority and supported the majority? Would you not say that such a decision shows an inconsistent attitude?

[Answer] As far as the budget is concerned, I had no interest--and I made this known to the leadership and parliamentary group of the party--in engaging in any political debate which would prevent the approval of cuts in the budget or of policies essential for streamlining. It would have availed us nothing to use long periods of the debate in attacks on the government if in the end no change would have come of them. Even though we did not get all of our budget objectives, we did have outstanding successes in our basic objectives.

[Question] National Liberation did not fight hard to eliminate specific headings or to lower the political debt. Is that not an attitude of weakness?

[Answer] The PLN parliamentary group fought hard to reduce the specific headings. We approved the motion of the Calderonists to reduce the totality of the headings by 40 million colones. Additionally, we fought in the ad hoc committee for a reduction of 187 million more. Despite our efforts, no vote was taken on this motion for lack of time; however, we can at any time bring it up again. As for the political debt, we are in agreement not only with reducing it by 20 percent but we also have enormous interest in making it the subject of a draft constitutional reform which will limit the amount of the political debt and shorten the election campaign periods. We confess that in this we had no support from the Unity coalition deputies to move forward along these lines.

[Question] Would you say that the attitude of the candidates and precandidates in favor of cutting the political debt was a mere demagogic pose?

[Answer] Statements made by several precandidates of the Unity Party on the subject of lowering the political debt were nothing more than a pose to gain immediate objectives. At a certain point in time, I thought that the bloc of Calderonist deputies would be able to stand firm on this position; however, what happened is that the Unity Party parliamentary group fell apart at the most important point in the budget proceedings and there was really no one with whom to seriously negotiate in order to move the important provisions forward.

[Question] Since precandidate Calderon Fournier announced that he was in favor of reducing the political debt, could the impossibility of negotiating on this cut be attributed to a division within the Calderonist sector?

[Answer] Certainly the group of deputies supporting Calderon Fournier were those who most clearly had shown their desire to talk with us on reduction of the political debt; however, at a certain point in time, I noted that the cohesion of this same parliamentary group had weakened considerably. That was the reason they had no bona fide speaker to take up the problem of the political debt in-depth. Under those circumstances, which were sabotaging the debate, they were successful in their efforts to prevent approval of motions on the subject and the draft constitutional reform.

[Question] Recently, there has been talk of a coup d'etat. Do you believe that a coup d'etat is possible in view of the serious situation in the country and the government's unpopularity?

[Answer] I have been following with a great deal of concern rumors which are being generated in connection with a possible coup d'etat in our country. I must tell you categorically that the PLN in no way favors shattering constitutional order, since our history abounds in great struggles to ensure the perennial authority of the Political Constitution and laws. We feel that no matter how unpopular the government may be, no matter how many mistakes and miscalculations it has made, and no matter whether we still have to suffer the consequences of those mistakes and miscalculations, the only way to move forward is by means of the right to vote. We have full confidence that we will win the next elections, and only a gross error of a political nature could cause a coup d'etat. By this I mean that if a serious situation arises, it will not be generated in the PLN sector. What is more, I personally do not believe that a coup d'etat is a proper instrument for the resolution of the serious problems we are facing in the economic, political and social sectors, because the shattering of constitutional order would only bring the country serious ills and confrontations prejudicial to peace and national accord. I do not believe in the coup d'etat and if this were unfortunately to happen, I would have to sadly admit that democracy in Costa Rica had received a mortal wound.

[Question] Jose Figueres said he believes in extraordinary emergency measures to face up to the crisis. To whom should such powers be given?

[Answer] I am not too clear about what Don Pepe may have in mind to carry out his proposals for establishing an emergency government in Costa Rica, without shattering the Political Constitution. The Constitution contains a series of farsighted provisions which can permit any important change in the government to resolve emergency situations. Possibly with serenity and careful thought we will be able to find the answers required to face up to the serious political crisis being experienced by the country without breaking constitutional order and without disturbing the peace of the republic.

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FOREIGN MESSAGES TO SECOND PCC CONGRESS NOTED

PLO Students' Message

FL241835 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1511 GMT 24 Dec 80

[Excerpt] PLO-affiliated students residing in Cuba have sent greetings to the Cuban people for the successful celebration of the second congress of the Communist Party of Cuba. The students say in their message that despite the bombs of the imperialists and their lackeys, the irreversible march of peoples in their ascending course to social progress cannot be halted. The PLO students conclude by expressing their deep and unlimited solidarity with the Cuban people and their glorious revolution.

Algerian President Congratulates Castro

FL251618 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Dec 80

[Text] Algiers--Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid has sent a congratulatory message to Fidel Castro on his reelection as first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba. The Algerian head of state reaffirms his conviction that the Algerian and Cuban revolutions will continue to work together always to attain common goals and to contribute to preserve peace and justice in the world.

'Arafat Message

FL311118 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Dec 80

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, has sent a congratulatory message to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro for his reelection as first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba. 'Arafat says that the confidence which the party has expressed in Fidel represents a vivid recognition of his dedicated struggle for the party and Cuban people and of the great role he plays in support of liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The maximum Palestine leader also emphasizes the leading role that Fidel is playing as chairman of the nonaligned countries movement which has earned him the support and admiration of all free men in the world.

Ceausescu, Kyprianou Messages

FL081334 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1202 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] Romanian Communist Party Secretary General Nicolae Ceausescu has sent a congratulatory message to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in which he hails his reelection as the party's top leader. The message wishes Fidel increasingly greater successes in the fulfillment of his high responsibility and the agreements of the Second PCC Congress.

It was also reported that Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou has attended a reception in Nicosia given by Cuban Ambassador to Cyprus Fermin Rodriguez on the occasion of the 22d anniversary of the Cuban Revolution. The Cuban diplomatic missions in Algeria and Hungary have also hosted receptions to commemorate the 22d anniversary of the Cuban Revolution's triumph.

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RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ INTERVIEWED ON FIVE-YEAR PLAN AIMS

LD241023 Paris LE MONDE in French 21-22 Dec 80 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Council of State, by Francis Pisani in Havana: "The Cuban Government Contemplates Relaxing Rationing for the First Time"--date not given]

[Text] Havana--The international situation is worrying the Cuban leaders and explains why they are "preparing to face hard times." However, as far as the internal sphere is concerned, the atmosphere which reigns in the corridors of the Second Communist Party Congress is one of relative satisfaction. "We are here to judge the last 5 years, and they have been rather good, despite the difficulties which have held our attention in the past few months," a Central Committee member said. "After all, there are not many countries, even developed countries, which can claim an annual growth rate of 4 percent between 1976 and 1980."

According to the Cuban leaders, the departure of 125,000 people (according to the official figures) "has not affected the life of the country." "People abroad did not believe us when we described those former Cubans as antisocial elements," Carlos Rafael Rodriguez told us, "but their behavior in Spain, Peru and in the American camps justifies this description which, moreover, is more moderate than those which the population uses for them."

The vice president of the Council of State, vice president of the Council of Ministers and Politburo member thinks that 35,000 Cubans left the country "to join members of their families living in the United States, although they were not incompatible with the revolution."

Essentially Carlos Rafael Rodriguez explained, "The people who allowed themselves to be seduced by imperialism this time were not doctors, engineers or senior cadres, as at the beginning of the revolution. They were fringe elements, and their departure has not left the technological gap which took us several years to fill the first time."

The preparation for a Communist Party congress is more important than the congress itself, and the Havana meeting is no exception to this rule. "Everything has already been decided." We were told by one delegate whom we asked whether he intended to present any motion himself. Aside from the keynote report presented by the first secretary and the speeches by some foreign delegations, the main interest lies in meetings in the corridors.

Good humor is the order of the day, as is the wearing of suits, and, it could be said, a stout figure. "You would think you were at a Republican Party convention," an American journalist, used to that type of event, confided in us. During a break in the session, delegations from all the mass organizations, in working clothes or uniform, invaded the hall waving multicolored scarves under portraits of Marx, Engels and Lenin displayed alongside three figures from the war of independence against the Spaniards and the three heroes of revolutionary and communist Cuba: Mella, the founder of the first Cuban Communist Party, Camilo Cienfuegos, and Maj "Che" Guevara.

"The role of guide and leader of society which the party assumes means that the congress concerns all the citizens," Carlos Rafael Rodriguez explained. "The broad lines of economic and social policy for the 1981-1986 5-year period were not only discussed by the 430,000 party members but circulates in the trade unions and the mass organizations. Almost 2.6 million people took part in the discussions and suggested thousands of amendments, several hundred of which were adopted."

The congress, clearly less important than the previous one, some of whose directives are considered valid until the year 2000, is also to adopt some amendments to the party rules and the "theses" adopted during the first congress. They relate to such diverse subjects as the party's internal life or the study of Marxism-Leninism, the equality of women, physical culture, or the system of managing the economy.

The Party's Role

"The Communist Party can be defined as both a voluntary and a selective association of the vanguard forces of the working class and the Cuban people," Mr Rodriguez explained.

"There is a full selection process which involves studying the political and revolutionary curriculum vitae of the candidates for entry into the party, who must first go through a stage of attending meetings without having full rights. Although the people cannot be said to decide on whether to admit new members, they do have their say. They express their view during assemblies held at their work places, and it is virtually impossible to be accepted as a candidate member when the workers are opposed to it."

The first congress had declared to increase the number of women and workers directly connected with production within the Communist Party. The latter now represent 47.3 percent of members (36.3 percent in 1975) and women 19.1 percent (14.1 percent in 1975), but none of these yet figures in Politburo.

According to the vice president of the Council of Ministers, the Communist Party's strength lies in a "set of systematic and permanent links between the organization of the party and that of the state, whose executives at the end of the chain are the party members or those who accept its directions and orientations." During his keynote report Fidel Castro strongly emphasized the "close liaison with the masses" and the fact that ideological struggle is "in the forefront of the battles to be waged."

Industrialization and Consumption

"The main objective of the next 5-year period is industrialization," we were told by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, who has special responsibility for economic and international questions. "However, sugar will long continue to be a decisive element in our economic life, even when we have ceased to be an agro-industrial country and have become an industrial-agrarian country. We will then combine sugar exports and exports of industrial products such as sugar refineries. From 1970 investment began to be made in industry on a larger scale, and we will be able to speak of extraordinary successes when sugar only represents 25 percent of our exports."

The industrial sector should make up 50 percent of the GNP in 1985, but Fidel Castro spoke in his report of reducing investments. Greater attention will, therefore, be paid to consumption.

"Despite the difficulties imposed on all developing countries by the world economic crisis, the Cuban people should in the next 5 years enjoy modest progress in the sphere of food, textiles and consumer durables. We are already approaching the developed countries' level as regards education and public health. For instance, life expectancy at birth is now 73 years (it was 70 in 1975)—one of the highest in the world. At present we are discussing for the first time the possibility of eliminating rationing on almost all industrial goods aside from basic consumer goods, for which we want to guarantee an equality which we could not obtain through a system of sale and price freedom."

CSO: 3010

MILITARY TRAINING FOR COMBAT READINESS DISCUSSED

Psychological Training Stressed

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 9 Nov 80 p 40-43

[Article by Capt Leonel Gorrin Merida, professor, General Antonio Maceo Interservice School of the FAR, in Military Education and Psychology Issues section: "What Do We Know About Psychological Training?"]

> [Text] "One must always prepare oneself for the moment of action. One does not simply go to war because one has the proper determination, ardor, and valor; one must also be trained and one must be very well trained!" Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro.

Everybody today is familiar with the need for being psychologically prepared in order to face extreme situations. The student who goes to take an examination talks about that; the athlete needs it in facing a difficult competition; it is indispensable for the fighting man in order to accomplish the complex and dangerous duty assignments of his service.

What do we mean by psychological training? What is its essence? How is it achieved? Not everybody knows how to answer these questions at all times.

We still have comrades who have not managed to draw a clear dividing line between the various types of training: there are those who equate political-ideological training with psychological training; others merely reduce it to physical or tactical training; there are those who simply do not manage to define it. This situation essentially is the result of two causes: lack of theoretical knowledge on the problem complex and the objective complexity within which the training of the individual must take place so that he may each day be more useful to our society.

In order to neutralize the effects of the former, various studies have been published in our military magazines and special courses are being taught.

With the help of others to be published shortly, this article will make possible to give our leaders a better idea of the essence of this phenomenon and ways for implementing it more effectively.

As for the second cause which determines this paradoxical situation, it is not in our power to eliminate it. We might even say that the exact opposite is true.

In line with social development and very particularly military phenomena, the tasks of training men are becoming more and more complex and multifaceted. The training of the younger generations for defense and the construction of socialist society among other things comprises the following: political-ideological, moral, esthetic, physical, labor, military, and psychological training. They do not work in isolation from each other. It is known that the personality is not shaped in individual portions, nor does it manifest itself separately. This is why these facets constitute a single whole within which the personality is shaped and developed in the framework of a concrete activity. All of this is referred to as the multilateral development of the individual which, as is pointed out in the Thesis on educational policy, represents the "essential principle of our education and this must not be considered as the simple arithmetic sum of education methods but rather as the inseparable elements of a harmonious integration of the character of the person to be educated, that is to say, the integral development of the individual personality."

This reaffirms the criterion to the effect that, in the practical activities of the units, one cannot speak of only one type of activity contributing to a sphere of individual preparations. Among these, one is predominant but others are implemented together. Although this phenomenon is objective, this is not the reason why we should leave it to spontaneity. In organizing and executing a particular activity, we must know the military objectives we pursue and we must channel it toward those objectives.

To be able effectively to undertake this complex effort, we must theoretically understand the internal aspects of those processes.

In this article we will only confine ourselves to presenting the fundamental causes that raise the importance of this problem complex at this moment and we will look into what we should mean by the term psychological training, in future articles we will in greater detail analyze the essence of this process and ways to implement it more effectively.

Importance of Psychological Training in Armed Forces

The military sphere is precisely one of the human activities where utmost attention has been devoted to this type of training in recent years.

This importance manifests itself increasingly and this is due to various causes, among which we might mention the following.

1. Contemporary warfare on a worldwide scale--if imperialism should unleash it--will have a cruel and tense character from its very beginning. The sophisticated means of mass destruction will bring that about. In this type of war, powerful missiles with nuclear warheads will be used and they will be capable of hitting the most remote corners of the world and their psychological influence is brought to bear already in peacetime. While, between World War I and World War II, humanity had to suffer the staggering loss of almost 70 million lives, a future confrontation will multiply that figure several times.

But, assuming that the war develops without the use of those means of destruction, as is happening now in the so-called local conflicts, its influence on men will not fail to be enormous. The use of "conventional" weapons does not diminish the cruel

and tense character of war. Technology and armaments today available to the ground forces, to the navy, and to the air force create a situation where the conditions, under which combat operations develop, are the most extreme.

2. The permanent danger facing all fighting men is another one of the causes that enhances the role of psychological training in the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces].

The objective existence of the danger, regardless of the deployment of the troops, is manifested today in a permanent form, which is why the period at the beginning of the war has shrunk to just a few hours and distance is not an obstacle to becoming involved in conflicts.

3. Under current conditions, the individual has to be ready to go into action under the most complex natural conditions. During past wars, it was possible to fight big battles only in daytime and on suitable terrain. Today, the main operations are carried out during the night, making even more use of the night as a factor in producing the element of surprise. Night operations create additional psychological burdens on the men. Their capacities are diminished, their metabolism is altered, and, in general, conduct and activity are disordered.

To this phenomenon we must add the fact that the individual many times will not only have to fight against the enemy but against his own limitations and natural dangers.

4. Imperialism as of now is unleashing against the Cuban people a war by unarmed means, among which ideological influence holds an outstanding place. Experts on warfare are talking much about that. However, its employment at other times was quite limited. Today, voluminous means of propaganda and agitation are available with significant influence (the movies, TV, the radio, the printed press, tourism, etc.). All of those by themselves add up to a complex system of action methods aimed at the individual consciousness. The imperialists are displaying demonstrations of force to intimidate the peoples; they advertise their squanderous "way of life" in order to produce reactions of sympathy toward them; they create false crises is various parts of the world, afterward providing rapid solutions without any devastating hecatomb. In doing so they intend, among other things, to create the custom that there will always be a way out of conflicts without having to unleash a war, and this is what can cause a weakening of the permanent internal combat readiness of the personnel; they come out with bellicose speeches, such as those of Ronald Reagan during his election campaign, in order to make themselves feel braver and to try to scare the world.

All of this falls apart in the face of the high degree of training of our people and the high level of political, military, and psychological development of our fighting men, such as they achieve it during active military service and in the reserves.

What Do We Mean by Psychological Training?

When we use this kind of psychological pedagogy, we must take two questions into account: whom are we training and what are we training them for? Officer training is not the same as enlisted training within the context of military activity; it is one thing to train a scout to operate behind enemy lines and it is something

entirely different to train a communications specialist who will work far in the rear area of our units. The content of psychological training for combat operations is different from that of the training needed for handling the complex assignments of peacetime service.

In the broader sense of the term, psychological training for combat means the organized and directed process of influencing a specific fighting man or a group of fighting men for the formation, perfection, development, and activation of all of those qualities which will guarantee the necessary readiness and psychological stability for effective action in the accomplishment of combat missions.

As we can see from this rather general definition, various tasks of this type of process must be accomplished here. On the one hand, it is necessary to develop in young fighting men new qualities which they do not have before they join the FAR and which are indispensable for combat. But those are not created out of nothing because each youngster, on reporting for active military duty, is already a more or less stable personality, possessing certain psychological qualities which must be developed and in some cases perfected or modified. Together with that, the ultimate purpose of psychological training is to create a certain readiness and psychological stability in men and units. What do we mean by those-mentioned two categories?

By the first one we mean a certain psychological personality state which, like the rest, has a temporary character. We know that every psychological state represents a very complex expression of the personality and this is all the more true in the case of readiness to go into combat, the sort of readiness which must assume a more or less steady character. This state is characterized by the fightingman's confidence in his own strength and in victory, by his determination to fight to the end, to give his all, including his own life, in an active, passionate, and self-sacrificing manner, without sparing any efforts and sacrifices in order to defeat the enemy who may attack us.

It is also defined by a high level of volitional-emotional excitment, by a high degree of firmness in the face of the various unfavorable influencing factors which the individual may run into during combat.

But psychological readiness alone is not sufficient for effective action under extreme conditions. We also need a high level of volitional-emotional stability which will enable the soldier, under the direct action of the multiple external factors inherent in combat situations, to maintain a high level of functional efficiency of the individual neuro-psychological system.

On the basis of these tasks, we can summarize what we mean by the content of psychological training of military units for combat missions:

A. Perfection and further development of the motivational sphere of the individual personality. Here we are talking about the formation and development of the personality's communist orientation. Without that ideology, one cannot talk of psychological readiness in the individual for combat in defense of the socialist fatherland.

B. Perfection, development (formation of new) character traits which will enable the individual to face the extreme conditions of combat.

C. Strengthing and development of the best qualities of the temperament in line with the content of the duty activities of fighting men.

D. Formation, perfection, development of necessary capacities facilitating successful accomplishment of combat missions.

E. Constant support and mobilization in personnel of long-lasting positive psychological states through the attainment of the necessary volitional-emotional stability.

F. Perfection and functional development of isolated psychological processes in line with the particular duty activity.

G. Formation, perfection, and development of knowledge, habits, and skills necessary in personnel for rapid and precise action in any situation.

H. Constant updating, development and perfection of the individual's social and combat experience.

I. Formation and development of high qualities in military units (correct interpersonal relationships, sound public opinions, high state of spirit, convictions, etc.) which will enable the individual in a harmonious and integral fashion to act effectively in the accomplishment of combat missions.

We will stop at this point right now and in the next article we will analyze the essence of this process and the types of psychological training we have now.

Wartime Stress Noted

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 16 Nov 80 pp 40-43

[Article by Capt Leonel Gorrin Merida, professor, General Antonio Maceo Inter-Service School of the FAR, in Military Education and Psychology Issues section: "Fundamental Content of Psychological Training"]

[Text] War has always been a severe test that proves the degree of training achieved by the belligerents involved. This is fundamentally true also of individuals. Here the greater or lesser level of training is manifested along with its correspondence to the requirements of contemporary warfare. The price to be paid for poor or insufficient training of military units involves heavy losses of human lives, defeat in combat and in war itself.

Lessons learned during many conflicts show that combat situations leave profound scars on the human individual. They cause characteristic psychological states, as well as an entire series of functional changes of the physiological and psychological components of individuals which have direct repercussions on their conduct and activities.

This is so because, during war, there is a whole system of external factors that influences all personnel and that can in a conventional form be arranged in three major groups:

1. Social factors (political-ideological, economic, social-psychological, etc.).

2. Natural or physical factors (geographic boundaries, natural dangers, climate, etc.).

3. Factors inherent in combat operations (operations by our troops; enemy characteristics and operations; use of complex equipment; use of mass extermination weapons; loss of lives, equipment, and weapons, etc.).

There is a close interrelationship among all those. Many take place even in peacetime, taking on a very acute character in wartime. Others are manifested only when armed conflicts arise.

It is not our intention here to go into a detailed explanation of those factors. We will now confine ourselves to saying that all of them--in existing objectively and exerting influence through internal conditions in man--cause neuro-psychological reactions in the individual. In fact, the above-mentioned reactions to equal external stimuli are different in each individual. And there is more to this than that: one and the same man may produce different reactions to similar stimuli. Practices shows that this is due to the following fundamental causes:

1. Character, significance, intensity, and strength of external stimuli influencing the individual.

2. Individual psychological particularities of stable of stable characteristics and their combination with temporary personality states.

3. Characters, social significance and objectives of activity carried out by individuals under the action of external stimuli.

The countless phenomena, relationships, and facts existing during armed operations can be reflected consciously or unconsciously. It is important to emphasize that not all stimuli are consciously reflected but all of them do influence the individual. The individual has the capacity to concentrate on certain stimuli, reject others, and not concern himself with the existence of third ones. But, if those third ones are objective, they too influence the personality and its subconscious. In this complex relationship of the conscious and the subconscious, the guiding role in the particular activity and in the conduct of the individual is played by the conscious [consciousness].

The action of these characteristic stimuli of combat operations and in general of warfare cause a certain internal state of psychological tension in the individual. As a particular psychological state, it arises as a result of the activities of the individual in conflict situations. It covers and influences each structural element of the individual personality, as well as the activity which the individual is performing. Stress can activate or dull the integral functioning of the psyche as a function of its individual characteristics, experiences, skills, as well as moral and psychological training.

The formation and perfection of various moral, political, physical, professional, and psychological qualities is the first step in the combat training of personnel in order to make sure that their neuro-psychological reactions will contribute to the sucess of operations and to a steady form of conduct.

As the outstanding Soviet military psychologist N. F. Fedenko said, the integral character and internal firmness of the individual personality by themselves constitute a kind of filter, a kind of transformer, on which depends the nature of the influence of stress states on psychological processes.

At the same time it is necessary to organize and correctly direct the activity of men. In that activity, individuals not only manifest themselves but are also shaped. Military experience demonstrates the enormous influence exerted by activities on individual and group conduct in complex combat situations.

In line with what we said before and to get a clearer idea of the fundamental content of psychological training, it is necessary to analyze the general pattern of expression of the state of stress during combat operations.

The first component in this pattern consists of the system of various groups of external factors already mentioned, a system which has an indistinct character.

The second component consists of the sensations, perceptions, and representations of all of these influencing factors. It is precisely through the sensor sphere that the external stimuli penetrate into the individual's conscious or subconscious.

The third component consists of the content of the personality which, as we said before, constitutes the filter through which the perceived influences penetrate and which cause a certain state of stress. The nucleus of that filter consists of the personality's psychological properties, its inclinations (tendencies, motives, etc.); temperament, character, capacities. In addition to the mentioned properties, the content of the personality is also formed by cognitive, emotional, and volitional processes; experience, combat skills, etc.

The fourth component is the initial activity of the individual. We are talking here about the character of the action which the individual carries out at the moment the various external stimuli exert their influence. Stress as a result of the function of the psyche under the influence of strong stimuli takes place in a specific human activity. In other words, the above-mentioned factors influence the personality through their content only in a specific activity in which the personality is formed and manifested.

The fifth component of this general pattern is the state of stress itself which influences not only the individual's conduct and activity but also the content of the personality.

The sixth component consists of the final actions, the activity and conduct resulting from the character of the stress created.

All of what we have said above can be graphically illustrated as shown in Figure 1 where, in a didactic fashion, we explain the dynamics of this phenomenon.

The analysis of this theoretical scheme calls for a dialectical-materialistic understanding of the interrelationship between all of the elements, in other words, it calls for an overall analysis.

From this scheme we can tell the fundamental directions of work in order to attain the most effective readiness and psychological readiness and psychological stability in the individual for warfare in general and combat in particular.

In other words, psychological training must be aimed at the characteristics of the content of the personality in line with the initial activity which that personality performs.

Types of Psychological Training

Starting with an analysis of military service and the practical psychological aspects of combat in the individual, we have the following types:

1. Psychological training to face any extreme situation.

2. Psychological training for war in general.

3. Professional psychological training.

4. Psychological training oriented toward specific combat operations.

5. Special psychological training.

Let us now analyze each one of those types.

In mentioning psychological training in support of actions during extreme situations, we are talking about that process of influences under which the individual was formed and developed as a personality, in essential terms, including prior to his joining the FAR. When the youngster is called up for active military service, he is already 17 years old or older. By then he already has a personality equipped with specific individual particular features, with his own system of concepts, motives, and ideals; he has his own opinions and his own personal character traits.

This type of psychological training constitutes the foundation on which the rest of the varieties mentioned above are developed. It is characterized by the following features:

This process does not have a clearly channeled character. Many isolated elements are involved in it and they make for a very spontaneous development.

Under its action, there are formed the most fundamental qualities of the steady character of the personality which serve as foundation for the formation of the necessary psychological qualities so that the individual may act effectively during dangerous combat situations.

It has a general character and prepares the individual for facing any conflict situation.

The result of this process, that is to say, the psychological readiness or unreadiness, is expressed as a steady state of the personality and is manifested in the individual's entire conduct and activity.

Determining the degree of psychological training for the purpose of facing extreme situations is one of the first tasks of the officer in his work with the young soldier upon the latter's joining our glorious Revolutionary Armed Forces. Without a command of that, it is impossible to channel our further work effectively.

Psychological training for war is another specific variety in relation to the other types.

By it we mean the channeled and organized process of influence over the psyche of the individual and the military group, a process which, under the direction of the leaders and political workers, is taking place within the FAR, for the purpose of perfecting and developing those positive qualities which were shaped during psychological training for extreme situations. Thus, its content includes eliminating the negative components of the personality and forming new qualities which are indispensable in accomplishing the complex missions of military service and being ready for facing war as a social and military phenomenon.

The degree of development which this last type of training can achieve is found to be a direct function of the level of the first one, while at the same time it contributes to its in-depth development. It is characterized by the following:

It has a channeled and organized character;

Its objective is narrower because it prepares the individual for specific wartime situations;

It constitutes the foundation for professional psychological training;

The level of training or the absence of training of the individual for wartime duty is manifested in a more complete fashion only under such conditions; in peacetime, it is expressed through isolated elements;

It influences not only the individual personality but above all the group.

Each fighting man in wartime has a very specific function to perform. Current developments in the military field mean that each individual must specialize. The diversity of duty assignments in military activities necessitates the implementation of the kind of training which will permit the fighting man to obtain not just general success in war but also to carry out his particular combat assignment effectively.

From what we explained above we understand that professional combat psychological training is the process of exerting influence directed at the psyche of the individual and the military group, on the basis of those already mentioned, with the objective of shaping, perfecting, and developing the necessary qualities in line with the character of the combat activities of personnel.

Experience shows that each variety of military duty assignment demands very specific psychological qualities in the individual. The duty specialties of scout, communications specialist, artilleryman, engineer, infantryman, or tanker are totally distinct and the influence of each upon the psyche of the fightingmen is diverse. Some fundamentally operate under isolated conditions while others are constantly in danger, etc.

The particular features of this type of psychological training can be summarized in the following aspects:

The process has a channeled character. It is under the permanent direction of the leaders and political workers.

Its content is different for each job specialty.

The level of training or the absence of training of the individual can be checked out in peacetime by conducting maneuvers, exercises, etc.

Its influence is exerted not only on isolated personalities but also on the group in general, since the individual as a general rule will always act within a group.

These three types of previously mentioned training constitute the general basis for acting in complex and dangerous combat situations. They are intimately interconnected and act as a single whole, enriching each other mutually. The qualities which are shaped during this process have a stable and long-lasting character. This statement does not deny their constant development which may assume a positive or a negative direction. This is why psychological training, as a whole, must be under the constant control of leaders so as to preserve and provide impetus for the development of the best qualities in the individuals.

One type of very important and dynamic activity is psychological training aimed at specific combat operations.

It is based on the earlier ones and the primary task here is to activate in the personnel those qualities which have already been shaped on the basis of the mobilization of positive psychological states. It consists basically of three stages:

1. Psychological training prior to combat.

2. During combat operations.

3. After combat.

The first of these is designed to mobilize all activities of the psyche for the development of necessary readiness for combat action which is approaching.

The second one is aimed at setting up and maintaining the kind of psychological stability which is indispensable in individuals so as not to permit any negative stress states.

The purpose of the third one is the restoration of the normal state of stress in the individual at a moment when there is spontaneously manifested a tendency toward the complete demobilization of the functional work done by the psyche.

Actual combat demonstrates that the individual, in any war, may find himself in unpleasant situations and may be the victim of temporary failures. Such situations can totally or partically destabilize the functional work of the psyche.

Experience has proved that there are cases where such conditions arise repeatedly. The individual loses confidence in himself and in victory and becomes a psychologically unprepared fightingman.

In those units, which have experienced setbacks, it is necessary to carry out special psychological training in order to restore the combat readiness of the men. This process is much more difficult than permanently maintaining psychological readiness.

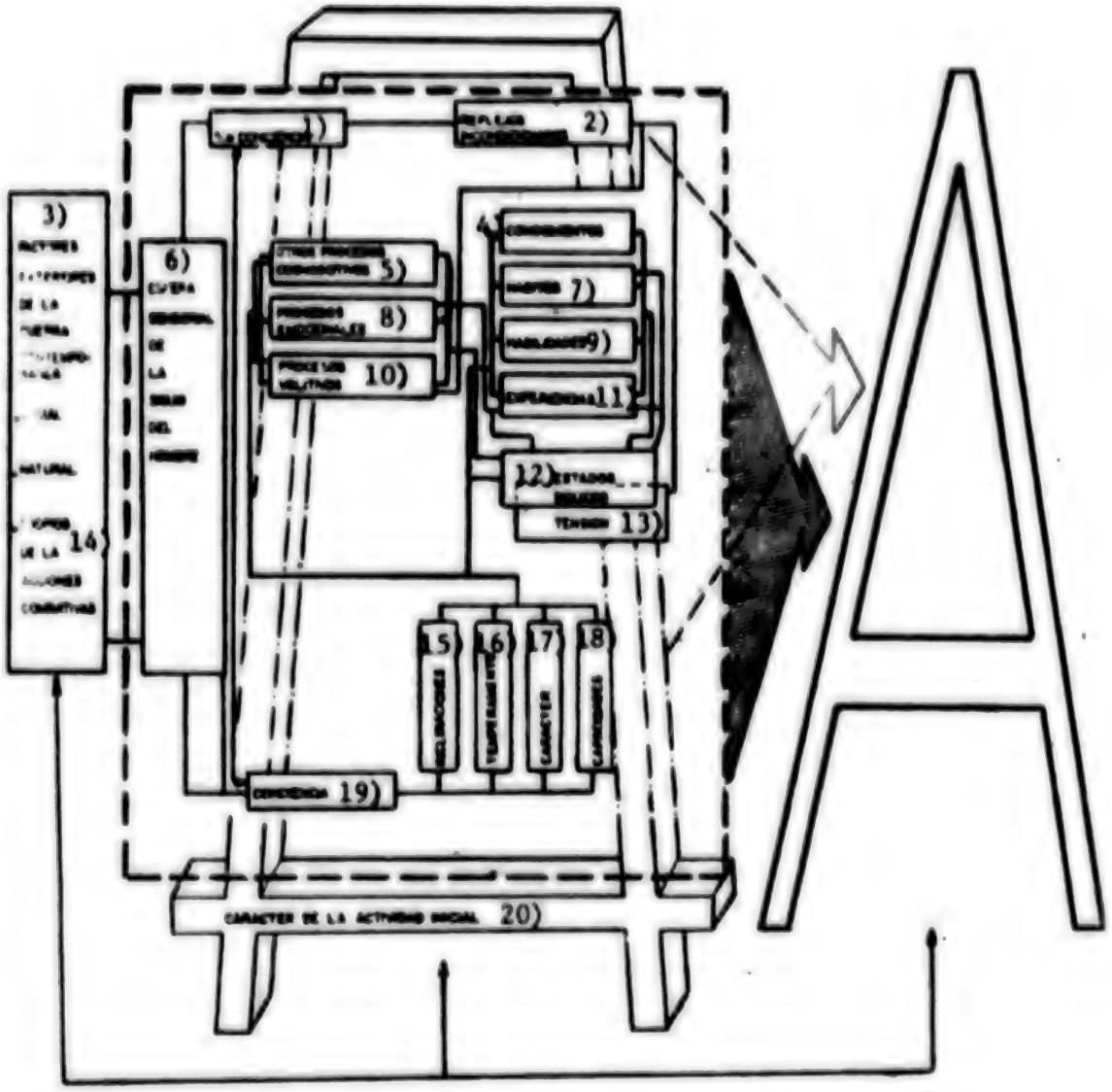
As a rule, the individual totally restores his psychological readiness when he proves his own strength successfully in practice.

As we can see, psychological training of personnel for combat is a long and complicated process which covers different aspects of personality formation. This is one of the reasons why our leaders and political workers must have a clear understanding of the essence of this phenomenon in order to eliminate any element of spontaneity.

Psychological training for combat operations is not an isolated process. It is interrelated with other types of unit training and it is fundamentally achieved through them.

In future articles we will analyze what qualities are necessary and how they can be achieved in each of the types of training mentioned.

Figure 1. Diagram of Wartime Factors Influencing the Psyche of Fighting Men



Key:

1. Subconscious
2. Unconditions reflexes
3. External factors of contemporary warfare
4. Knowledge
5. Other cognitive processes
6. Sensor sphere of individual's psyche
7. Habits
8. Emotional processes
9. Skills
10. Volitional processes
11. Experiences
12. Psychic states
13. Stress
14. Inherent in combat operations
15. Inclinations
16. Temperament
17. Character
18. Capacities
19. Conscious [consciousness]
20. Character of initial activity

Psychological Conditions Explained

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 30 Nov 80 pp 40-43

[Article by Maj Roberto Hechavarria Stable, professor at General Maximo Gomez Academy of the FAR in Military Education and Psychology Issues section: "Psychological Conditions for the Training of Fighting Men"]

[Text] We published the article entitled "Psychology of Combat Readiness" on pages 37-38 of the magazine VERDE OLIVO, 37, 1980. In the concluding part of that article, the author emphasized the fact that internal (psychological) combat readiness is shaped under the influence of the entire system of training which the fightingman gets.

In this second article we are going to talk about the psychological conditions which guarantee the effectiveness of this kind of training.

To achieve a high level of inner readiness, it is of decisive importance to form high moral combat qualities in the personnel, that is, political-moral, professional, psychological, and physical qualities.

Socialist military psychology analyzes the psychological features of these qualities and it recommends the general mechanism for their formation in the process of training the personnel of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces], both within the context of the CEM [Military Training Centers] and in the units.

The effectiveness of developing these qualities depends on the creation of certain psychological conditions among which we have the following:

First of all, the formation, activation, and maintenance of a system of motives.

They must guarantee the effectiveness of the activity of personnel during the classroom session.

In this sense, the fundamental thing is to start with the great social significance of military activity and to make sure that the basic place in the structure of the individual's motivation will be taken up by factors of broad social significance, such as a high level of awareness of military duty performance, the conviction as to the need for improving combat readiness, loyalty to the fatherland and to the party.

But along with this it is necessary to develop other situational motives with different content and levels (intellectual, emotional) which will assure the effectiveness of the activity being performed (classroom sessions, lectures, seminars, exercises, maneuvers), of the tasks being carried out, and of the objectives pursued.

One of the motivations which must be created in fightingmen during the conduct of maneuvers, for example, is the conviction as to the necessity that the mission, which has been assigned to the small unit, must be accomplished with maximum

success. This temporal motivation--which works in correspondence to factors of high social significance--creates a strong intimate force which permits each of the members of the platoon or the company, on the one hand, successfully to accomplish his duty and, on the other hand, to improve his combat skills.

It is also necessary to struggle to make sure that motivations of a negative content will not arise in the individual, motivations which on some occasions spring from the repetition of unnecessary operations, repeated failures, excessive exhaustion, negative objectives, etc.,

The above engenders a desire for finishing the classroom sessions and doing all of the work with a minimum personal performance level and it diverts attention from the effort to overcome difficulties, etc.

This is why the fundamental mission of commanders, political workers, and individuals in charge of teaching activities is to create positive objectives and motivations.

In second place, we must consider and direct the various types of activities of our personnel.

The activity of personnel in the various forms of instruction can be cognitive, emotional, volitional, or motivational. Hence, the fundamental thing is to develop the methods and procedures which will permit the effective mobilization of all types of psychological activity which is a favorable condition for the formation of the necessary qualities.

It must be kept in mind that the activity of the trainees can be different in terms of the degree of participation of consciousness and, consequently, in terms of the educational results.

The greater the role played by the various types of psychological activities performed by the fightingman in the accomplishment of his tasks and missions, the greater will be the participation of his consciousness and therefore the more effective will be the influence exerted by the military environment on the development of the soldier's personality.

The action which takes place without the necessary participation of consciousness [the conscious] is stimulated by the mechanisms of the first system of signals and has little influence on the development of high qualities.

The activity which is performed with a maximum degree of participation of consciousness has decisive significance to the attainment of success in combat and is characterized by the clarity of objectives, the role of motivations, of willpower, of feelings, and of cognitive processes.

To attain the active participation of the troops in their training--something which is of great educational importance--the political organs and organizations of the party and the UJC [Union of Young Communists] must among other things make sure that the fightingmen tackle their general and special tasks with clarity and precision because that is what enables them precisely to see the objectives they pursue.

Third, it is necessary to overcome different types of difficulties.

To make sure that fightingmen will display their skills efficiently under combat conditions, they must, during training, overcome the difficulties connected with this. This is the only way they will develop solid habits and creative possibilities.

The difficulty is expressed in the psyche of the individual as an obstacle to be overcome in the pursuit of assigned objectives. The character of the difficulties and their psychological content may be different, which is why overcoming those difficulties demands the manifestation of different qualities, such as physical strength, valor, firmness, calm, initiative, ingenuity, etc.

Difficulties which call upon all of these qualities must be created during the training process. As a result of overcoming these difficulties, volitional qualities are formed in the fightingmen, along with self-confidence and confidence in equipment as well as other virtues which make it possible to overcome the obstacles that may be encountered in war tomorrow.

In the course of training, personnel may encounter different difficulties. In a tactical classroom session, for example, obstacles are created deliberately or spring up suddenly due to objective factors, obstacles such as "enemy resistance," "change in situation," etc. There are other categories of difficulties which arise as a consequence of the wrong decisions, insufficient organization, poor preparation on the part of the leader, inability to implement decisions made, etc.

While the former are favorable premises for the development of the moral and fighting qualities necessary for war, the latter, on the contrary, negatively influence the training of officers and soldiers.

We have to keep in mind that the objective acts as the main motive toward overcoming difficulties. This is why, so long as the individual is not aware of the importance of the objective and the conditions under which it must be attained, he will not mobilize his internal strength and that is the fundamental condition for developing in him the most important personality qualities.

This situation confronts the commanders and political workers with the need for demanding a detailed presentation of training plans and the implementation of classroom sessions, training sessions, and exercises, during which it is necessary to take into account the psychological mechanism of educational influencing factors.

Fourth, we must consider the state of mind.

States of mind influence the functioning of all psychological processes, the manifestation of knowledge, of skills, and habits. And they also influence the individual's activity. They can include the excitement of battle, the surge of spiritual forces, of self-confidence, or psychological states of apathy, depression, insecurity with respect to oneself, and others. The correct consideration and regulation of psychological states is indispensable because theyare the most mobile elements in the psychological world of the personality.

They indicate the temporary functional state of the psyche and they permit the calculation and evaluation of training and educational possibilites of the various forms which are used to train fightingmen.

To influence the psychological state, we must keep in mind the specific conditions under which the individual performs his activities and the characteristics of the stages of those activities.

Let us take maneuvers as an example here. During the preparatory phase, the commanders and political workers, experienced as a result of doing political work and party work, develop in the personnel a state of combat excitement and a secure belief in success; that makes it possible to accomplish the assigned tasks with greater efficiency. It is quite logical that the results depend on an effort whose objectives, content, and forms of implementation will be in line with the particular phase and its conditions.

It is impossible to achieve these psychological states during the course of the maneuvers as such, by trying to do the same kind of work at that time, because there are different factors which influence the conduct of maneuvers and which can also negatively influence the individual. Among those factors we have excessive exhaustion, temporary setbacks, decline in intensity of political and party work, and others. We have to keep in mind that the commanders, political workers, communists, young communists, in general, must do two jobs: They must overcome their own negative psychological states, if they arise, and they must produce the proper influence in the formation of a positive state of mind in the rest of the personnel.

It is necessary to keep in mind that, as a rule, there is a decline in tension as a consequence of the decline in the intensity of the task; above all it is important to keep in mind here the final stages of maneuvers, exercises, etc. It is precisely at those moments, sometimes, that the state of battle excitation, the general surge of activity are partly changed toward an attitude of indifference, a decline in alertness and general passivity; on some occasions this causes various violations of discipline and poor task performance.

Fifth, there must be a maximum affinity between the study situation and the combat situation.

The creation of this situation is possible if we keep in mind the psychological mechanisms deriving from the influence of external factors upon the individual.

Present-day combat demands a maximum effort in terms of all psychological and physical resources and personnel must be trained to respond to that. But a real situation exists only in combat so that we have only one way out: We must fashion this situation in the process of training our fightingmen.

The construction of the psychological model of combat can cause tensions and pscyhological reactions similar to those arising in wartime.

These models can be created in almost all forms of training but maneuvers, as a higher form of training for fightingmen, do provide the best conditions for obtaining this objective.

These models are built on the basis of the principles of analogy and similarity and according to the degree of reproduction of the psychological factors of combat. They are classified as being complete (the model that reproduces all of the fundamental aspects of combat) and partial (the model which reproduces one or several essential psychological aspects).

It is very important to come up with a clear definition of the criteria for measuring the difficulties which are created during training by analogy and similarity. It is recommended that the following features be put together in the psychological model: Motivational, cognitive, signaling, and motor.

The commanders, political workers, and also specialists who are in one way or another involved in personnel training must keep these features of the psychological model in mind during the planning, organization, and implementation of the various forms of training for fightingmen.

To make sure that the above-mentioned will emerge more clearly in terms of the features mentioned, we might analyze them briefly now.

Motivational

They are a component of the orientation of the personality and they constitute the moving forces for the activity which the individual performs. The situation created in the particular activity is reflected in the consciousness of the fightingmen and activates one of the systems of their motives which may be the system of high social significance (group-orientation, loyalty to duty performance, need for task accomplishment, etc.) Or limited motives (aspiration for recognition, desire to get a good efficiency report, etc.)

These two systems reveal essential differences; while the first one also produces a positive influence, the second can yield positive or negative results, depending upon the social or purely individual significance.

Hence the importance of developing in personnel, during all classroom sessions, maneuvers, and exercises, etc., motivations of high social significance, such as pride in serving in the armed forces, confidence in the equipment, in superiors, a feeling of belonging to a group, loyalty toward military duty, and others.

In the everyday practice of educational-mobilization work, we must not fail to note the importance of activating positive personal motives, that is to say, the fightingman must get to feel the high social standing he has, recognition for his work, the manifestation of his moral and fighting qualities, the need for copying the best individuals and the need for self-assertion in the group.

Routine military duty performance shows that educational work primarily activates motivations of broad social significance but isolated things may arise where, with the objective of improving the spirit of subordinates to accomplish certain tasks, some commanders will resort to promises of weekend passes for those who perform outstandingly well.

This procedure not only affects the authority of the commander--who sometimes cannot deliver on his promises--but, what is even worse, it causes the subordinates

to be inspired by personal objectives and not by the assignment given to the particular unit.

Shaping the motivational features is a complex thing because it calls for a high level of psychological-pedagogical training in cadres and a profound knowledge of the personal peculiarities of the object to be influenced.

Cognitive

On the correct interpretation of the situation depends the orientation of the individual, the calculation of his possibilities of taking the proper action, the adoption of decision and the drafting of the plan to be carried out. All of this is possible thanks to the cognitive processes (sensation, perception, representation, memory, imagination, attention, thinking, and language). By virtue of them, the subjective model of objective reality is formed in the consciousness of the individual; correspondence between both of them is the condition that makes it possible to attain the objectives of the particular activity assigned.

The individual does not in his consciousness reflect all of the stimuli associated with war because this reflection takes place within very narrow limits, determined by the upper and lower thresholds of sensation. If the stimuli operate within those limits, an incorrect reflection may be produced and that may turn the situation upside down. This shows us that it is necessary to develop in the fightingman a range of sensations corresponding to the influence which certain stimuli in actual warfare bring about.

The cognitive model has the fundamental objective of enriching the consciousness of the personnel by increasing their concept of combat. These ideas regarding combat constitute a bridge linking the lower and upper cognitive processes; the greater the grouping of ideas and images which a person has about combat, the more easily will the individual be able to orient himself in combat.

The creation of cognitive models presupposes the reproduction of the elements of combat in various situations, with different magnitudes and effects. The continued reproduction of one and the same model may make it possible for the individual to adapt to these conditions but he will do so in a mechanical manner, thus mutilating the development of the soldier's creative possibilities.

Signaling

Among the fundamental signaling features involved in war, we have the aspect of danger.

In war, as Lenin said, there is not a single minute when one is not surrounded by danger; this idea is particularly true with relation to contemporary warfare, where the possibility of the appearance of dangerous situations grows tremendously. This aspect of combat consequently means that we must, in peacetime, gather the experience necessary so that we may act under such conditions.

In contrast to bourgeois military psychology--which considers fear as a unique and mandatory response to danger--socialist military psychology maintains that danger can cause the appearance of the feeling of apprehension or excitement of battle in personnel.

if it produces the former, it will negatively influence the mission; if it produces the latter, all psychological functions of the fightingman will spring to life and that to a great extent will facilitate success.

Danger causes combat excitation when the individual has high social motives, self-confidence, confidence in his weapons, strong habits, experience in acting under difficult situations, valor, audacity, and self-denial.

The marking or signaling of the psychological model is achieved by raising the level of danger and risk. During maneuvers, this means firing over the heads of the troops, landing in unknown territory, in the woods, overcoming water obstacles, etc.

In creating situations which can cause a feeling of fear, the commander confronts the subordinate with the need for overcoming that fear and for taking steps to achieve that goal.

This positive experience (assuming he overcomes fear) will thereafter grow into an active and strong response to danger which will permit the rise of a feeling of excitement in battle, self-confidence, and belief in victory.

Motor Features

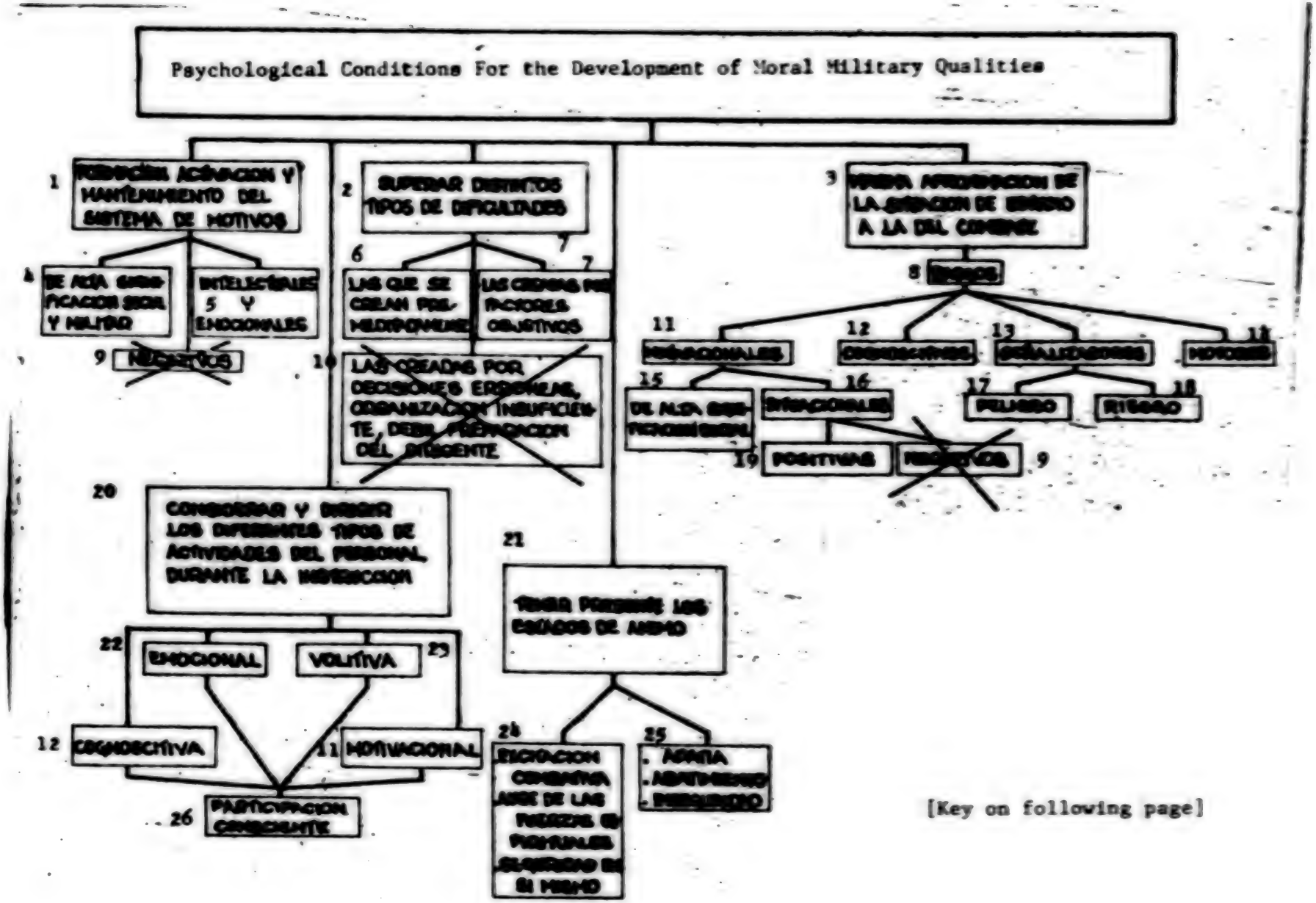
During the analysis of activity and isolated actions, military psychology starts with the idea that one of its most important structural components is the complex of isolated operations which in general characterize one or another activity or action.

Creating a motor model means putting the fighting man in such conditions during which he will be forced to perform all or most of the operations that constitute the internal structure of real combat activities. This will make it possible to strengthen habits.

Current maneuvers, for example, enable us to create broad motor models when, in them, the personnel must not only go on long marches, where the accomplishment of actions and operations will, let us say, permit drivers and tankers to perfect their driving habits, but also to build various fortifications in difficult terrain in a short time, at night, and under unfavorable weather conditions. Doing this work, among other things, promotes the development of automatic habits which enable the fightingman to prepare himself in minimum time and to make maximum use of the terrain, something which under our conditions will always be of vital importance.

The ideas we have expressed here show that it is necessary to create a psychological model of contemporary combat in the system of training, during classroom sessions, exercises, maneuvers, etc. The calculation and reproduction, during training of all of the features and particular aspects of the model we create will enable us to make training as realistic as possible in terms of actual combat conditions and to develop the necessary qualities in our personnel.

The considerations expressed regarding the psychological conditions connnected with the formation, in FAR personnel, of moral-fighting qualities demonstrate the complexity of these phenomena and alert us to the fact that we must continue to perfect our knowledge in these directions. We know the better our fighting men are prepared, the greater will be the possibility of their participation in victory of the enemy in case he should invade our territory.



[Key on following page]

Key:

1. Formation, Activation, and Maintenance of the System of Motives
2. Overcoming Various Types of Difficulties
3. Maximum Realism in Study Situation Compared to Combat Situation
4. High Social and Military Significance
5. Intellectual and Emotional
6. Deliberately Created Difficulties
7. Difficulties Created by Objective Factors
8. Features
9. Negatives
10. Difficulties Created Due to False Decisions, Insufficient Organization, Poor Training on the Part of the Leader
11. Motivational
12. Cognitive
13. Signaling [Marking]
14. Motor
15. High Social Significance
16. Situational
17. Danger
18. Risk
19. Positive
20. Consider and Direct the Various Types of Activities of Personnel During Instruction
21. Give Consideration to the States of Mind
22. Emotional
23. Volitional
24. Excitement of Battle, Surge of Spiritual Strength, Self-Confidence
25. Apathy, Depression, Insecurity
26. Conscious Participation

5058
CSO: 3010

PRSC REPORTS TORTURE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 6 Dec 80 p 2

[Article: "PRSC Reports Political Prisoners Tortured in Cuba"]

[Text] The Christian Social Revolutionary Party yesterday reported that several Cuban political prisoners were seriously injured as a result of a beating they received from prison guards who sought to break a hunger strike.

The political organization notes that the strike began on 12 November at Boniato prison, where about 100 prisoners sought to express, through a hunger strike, their rejection of the abuses of the communist prison system.

It points out that, among the Cuban political prisoners who were seriously injured were Jorge Valls y Onofre and Oscar Rodriguez.

The Christian Socialists explain that the political prisoners are making use of the communications media which they have been able to reach in order to denounce their sufferings in Cuban jails, where there are no courts of justice in which the accusations prefabricated by the Fidel Castro regime could be made public.

5170
CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

CUBAN SEEKS REFUGE IN LISBON--Lisbon, 27 Dec (AFP)--Julian Garcia Alonso, a 36-year-old Cuban passenger on a Soviet Aeroflot Airline plane, asked the Portuguese authorities for protection upon his arrival in Lisbon, it was learned from reliable sources at the airport. Garcia Alonso, an employee of a fishing concern in Havana, had been rewarded for his good work with a vacation trip to Moscow. In Lisbon he told the authorities he intended to obtain a visa from the U.S. Embassy there. Another Cuban youth apparently was not able to speak to the customs officials at the airport and was forced back into the plane. Five Cubans traveling to the Soviet Union this year asked for political asylum from the United States at Lisbon. Pianist Eunice de las Nieves Hernandez, who on 7 December asked for political asylum in Portugal, has expressed her desire to live in the United States or Mexico. [Text] [PA271540 Paris AFP in Spanish 1322 GMT 27 Dec 80]

SDAR FOREIGN MINISTER VISIT--Comrade Ibrahim Hakim, foreign minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, paid an official visit to our country from 15 to 18 December at the invitation of Cuban Foreign Minister Isidiro Malimerrca. Foreign Minister Ibrahim Hakim was received by Acting Foreign Minister Rene Anillo. The two officials discussed problems of the current international situation as well as confirmed the high and fraternal level of the bilateral relations existing between the two countries and their mutual cooperation. [Text] [FL191339 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Dec 80]

RAUL CASTRO CONGRATULATES SRV ARMY--The congratulatory message which Army Gen Raul Castro, minister of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, has sent to the People's Army of Vietnam has been published by the Vietnamese press. In his message addressed to Vietnamese Defense Minister Gen Van Tien Dung, Raul Castro hails the 36th anniversary of the army and wishes greater successes to Vietnamese cadres and combatants in their defense of revolutionary gains. [Text] [FL231921 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 23 Dec 80]

GUINEAN PARTY SIGNS AGREEMENT--A 1981 cooperation plan has been signed in Havana between the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and the Democratic Party of Guinea [PDG]. The document was signed by Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo and chief of the Central Committee's General Department of Foreign Relations, and by Gen Lansane Diane, member of the PDG Politburo and Guinean minister of defense, who headed his country's delegation to the Second PCC Congress. The plan provides for work sessions between the two parties, as well as the exchange of information and delegations in the areas of organization and ideology. [Text] [FL231228 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Dec 80]

MONTANE MARKS ICAP ANNIVERSARY--At the time when threats to the survival of the revolution were most critical, Cuba never isolated itself in its own problems because solidarity is part of the policy of principles of our government. Jesus Montane, alternate member of the party Politburo, made this statement in a speech last night at a ceremony marking the 20th founding anniversary of the Cuban Institute for Friendship With Peoples--ICAP. The ceremony was chaired by party Politburo members Armando Hart and Julio Camacho Aguilera, alternate Politburo members Vilma Espin and Armando Acosta and Central Committee member and ICAP president Rene Rodriguez. Montane expressed the revolutionary pride he felt over the 20 years of existence of the organization which has earned friends for Cuba everywhere in the world. He emphasized that in its active and heroic struggle, Cuba developed a movement of worldwide solidarity and that this solidarity will continue to play an important role. Montane said ICAP's creation was necessary to handle the great wave of solidarity being received from the farthest corners of the world as well as to channel our support for the solidarity with other peoples. [Text] [FL311124 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Dec 80]

CONGRATULATIONS FROM BENIN--Benin's Chief of State Mathieu Kerekou has sent a congratulatory message to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, and the Cuban people on the occasion of the 22d anniversary of the revolution's triumph. Kerekou's message was delivered to Cuban Ambassador to Benin Juan Govea Salles during a round of talks held at Government House in Cotonou, that African country's capital. [Text] [FL071308 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Jan 81]

CAMACHO AGUILERA'S ACTIVITIES--Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the PCC Politburo and first party secretary in Havana City Province, has visited the Friedrich Engels Vocational School. He expressed interest in the progress of the current school term in that center. [Text] [FL071311 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Jan 81]

BENITEZ DEATH ANNIVERSARY--Jose Ramon Fernandez, minister of education and member of the PCC Central Committee, made the closing remarks at a ceremony held on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the assassination of Conrado Benitez. Let us pay tribute to his memory with the youths' firm declaration that they will devote themselves increasingly more to study, that they will deepen their ideological formation, that they will work with greater efficiency and exigency and that they will respond to each request of the fatherland with a renewed quota of sacrifice and selflessness, Fernandez noted. He referred to the revolution's gains prior to 5 January 1961 and stated that just in 1 year more rural classrooms had been built than during the 57 years of puppet republic. He added that this together with the profound economic and social reforms had been too much for imperialism and its murderers who decided to kill Conrado Benitez to check the educational movement in the country. But, today we meet here, he said, to remember his example, to tell the present generations about the life and death of that young primary school teacher on the Escambray Mountains and to demonstrate that his sacrifice was not in vain. [Text] [FL071311 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 7 Jan 81]

VILLA CLARA STEAM BOILERS PLANT--The first industrial steam boilers plant built in Cuba will begin operations in the second half of 1981 after completion in the first half. Built with Soviet aid, the 15-million pesos plant is located in Sagua la Grande, Villa Clara Province, and can build 30 boilers a year for the sugar industry. [FL031102 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Jan 81]

JORGE RISQUET IN ARTEMISA--Politburo member Jorge Risquet has congratulated the [October] Revolution's 64th Anniversary Brigade in the name of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. The brigade belongs to the Havana City Transportation Trade Union. It became the first volunteer canecutters group in Cuba to cut its first million arrobas of sugarcane in just 26 days. The congratulations were conveyed at a special ceremony at the Tejerina Camp on the grounds of the Abraham Lincoln Sugar Mill in Artemisa. [FL021749 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jan 81]

ALMEIDA IN VERTIENTES, SIBANICU--Politburo member Juan Almeida Bosque has visited three sugar mills in Camaguey Province to learn of the progress of the current sugar harvest. The sugar mills were Siboney in Sibanicu, and Batalla de las Guasimas and Panama in Vertientes. He welcomed the new year at the Panama sugar mill. [FL021749 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jan 81]

TRADE UNIONS ASSEMBLIES--The National Committee of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions has decided to hold nationwide assemblies in support of the agreements of the party's second congress and to show the Cuban workers' readiness to join the territorial troops militias. The assembly process will begin on 15 January and end 16 February but labor officials may decide to hold assemblies earlier at any work center that is ready for them. [FL021749 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jan 81]

SUGAR HARVEST NEWS--With the recent start of grinding operations at the Benito Juarez, Abel Santamaria and Emilio Cordoba sugar mills, Villa Clara Province now has 20 sugar mills producing sugar. There are 104 sugar mills working on the sugar harvest throughout the country. [Excerpt] [FL311645 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Dec 80]

HEALTH SERVICES--Sergio del Valle Jimenez, member of the party Politburo and minister of public health, has inaugurated a community polyclinic in Ciego de Avila. The polyclinic will provide services to 20,000 persons. Del Valle said Ciego de Avila has made noteworthy progress in the public health sector and he outlined the principal projects that will be undertaken in the 1981-85 period to improve medical services there. He pointed out that the cities of Moron and Ciego de Avila had 449 hospital beds in 1958 and now they have 1,113. [FL311645 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Dec 80]

PUBLICATION OF CASTRO SPEECH--Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Council of State, has made the closing speech at the second ordinary session of the People's Government National Assembly held at the Palace of Conventions in Havana. At the proposal of Army Gen Raul Castro, first vice president of the Council of State, who described Fidel's words as brief but vital, the speech will be published under the title of production and defense. This action was approved unanimously. Raul explained that the party Politburo would draft a plan, as

proposed by the National Assembly, to undertake an intensive dissemination of Fidel's pronouncements at party cells, Union of Young Communists rank-and-file committees, factories, schools and throughout the country in general. Minutes before the speech of the maximum leader of the revolution, the National Assembly unanimously approved naming 1981 the year of the 20th anniversary of Giron. [Excerpt] [FL291735 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Dec 80]

ALMEIDA VISITS CANE HARVESTER PLANT--PCC Politburo member Juan Almeida Bosque has visited the 60th October Revolution Anniversary Cane Harvester Factory, whose workers have fulfilled their pledge of producing 500 harvesters this year. Miguel Cano Blanco, alternate member of the Politburo and first party secretary in Holguin Province, accompanied Almeida in his tour of that important factory. He congratulated the workers for the productive success attained this year. Since 19 December this center's workers had fulfilled the year's technical and economic plan, which amounted to 480 harvesters, and proceeded on to produce 20 more they had pledged to Fidel. The Cuban workers and Soviet specialists working in that factory--a symbol of Cuban-Soviet friendship--had to make an extraordinary effort to fulfill this pledge, conducting intense guerrilla work drives and contributing thousands of volunteer hours. In doing so, the factory workers produced harvester No 1050 since the plant was inaugurated by Fidel Castro in July 1977. [Text] [FL310053 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Dec 80]

ALMEIDA TOURS SUGAR MILL--PCC Central Committee Politburo member Juan Almeida Bosque has visited the Urbano Noris Sugar Mill in Holguin Province. Accompanying Almeida on his tour of the various departments of the largest agro-industrial complex in the country was Miguel Cano Blanco, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and first party secretary in that province. The two leaders chatted with the workers and administrative personnel of the mill. The big sugar mill ground more than 1 million arrobas daily during the first 17 days of the harvest, establishing a national historic record by processing in 1 workday more than 1.5 million arrobas. The Urbano Noris Sugar Mill's workers told Almeida and Cano Blanco that they will fulfill all pledges made for this harvest of the second 5-year period and any other task that becomes necessary. [Text] [FL312137 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2104 GMT 31 Dec 80]

PNR ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITIES CONCLUDE--Brig Gen Pascual Martinez Gil, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice minister of the interior, has praised the work of the Revolutionary National Police [PNR] during its 22 years of existence. Pascual Martinez made the closing remarks at the ceremony marking the conclusion of all activities commemorating the 22d anniversary of that institution, during which several combatants were promoted and others awarded the 22d PNR anniversary certificate. He praised the aid given by the Soviet Union to the PNR since its creation, especially in the training of specialists. He urged the combatants to step up vigilance at all levels, to apply technology in all efforts and to increase cooperation with mass organizations. In closing, he stressed the need for courtesy and respect toward those who with their sweat contribute to the victorious advance of the revolution and a firm and energetic response to those who negatively affect the people's tranquility. [Text] [FL051131 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Jan 81]

RISQUET CHAIRS CAMAGUEY MEETING--PCC Politburo member Jorge Risquet and Lazaro Vazquez, first party secretary in Camaguey Province, have chaired a meeting to examine the expansion work at El Real salt mine of Santa Lucia Beach. Valued at more than half a million pesos, the expansion work includes the addition of a salt processing plant, an area for refining and washing, crystallizers and two brine tanks which will make the production of 27,000 tons and extraction of 37,000 tons of salt possible. [Text] [FL081201 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Jan 81]

CSO: 3010

PAN'S NIVAR SEIJAS DISCUSSES HIS ELECTION PROSPECTS

Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 27 Nov 80 p 9

[Text] Gen (ret) Neit Rafael Nivar Seijas said yesterday that because of "the errors of the present administration of the PRD (Dominican Revolutionary Party)," Dominicans are witnessing "one of the most depressing chapters" of their republican history.

Nivar Seijas made his statement after he and other leaders of the PAN (National Action Party) yesterday requested the legal certification of that political organization from the JCE (Central Electoral Board).

He said that at present there are various problems of an economic and social nature despite repeated PRD promises.

"We have a situation here where, because of the administrative incompetence of the present regime, we Dominicans are going back to square one, seeing ourselves under the obligation to plan again in order not to succumb as a people endowed with a Christian culture and prospects for a free and democratic future," he indicated.

Nivar Seijas, president of PAN, said that "following careful thought" he decided to launch himself into the political arena "with the idea of forming a party which, with entirely nationalist and democratic features, will assume responsibility to fight for the restoration of confidence in our national destinies."

Nivar Seijas noted that the establishment of the PAN "is the outcome of my personal conviction that only by imposing sacrifice among all aware Dominicans will the miracle of a vigorous economy and the full exercise of human rights be achieved as well as the complete enjoyment of public health services and the realization of an articulate agrarian reform without demagogy."

He observed that a social impact would also be achieved that would enable the affluent to increase their resources and the poor to benefit extensively from the assets of the well-to-do groups.

He asserted that "the filing of hundreds of thousands of signatures with the Central Electoral Board is a clear demonstration that the PAN is starting out with the support of the masses and with the firm determination of becoming involved in the crusade of sacrifices which our homeland demands from each of us in these critical times."

The retired major general said that his political grouping opts "for a just society where there are no class distinctions and where everyone finds the way open for the achievement of his personal goals inspired by higher ideals."

He added that he is also struggling in order that "armed forces respectful of civilian authority and included in the national development process may exist as part of the Dominican family which they are.

"We opt for the strength and independence of the traditional and constitutional powers of the republic," he said.

In his opinion the legislative, executive, and judicial powers "must become fully strengthened until they achieve in practice their genuine mission, contributing together to the broadening of the citizens' awareness and to the better solution of the joint demands of the national interest."

Nivar Seijas said that "serious events" occurring in the last few days have increased his personal concern. Because of that, he stressed, "I reassert my belief that only the good faith of aware Dominicans can keep the country from rushing into the abyss of despair in the immediate future."

He said that last week the Santa Ana parish church was the scene "of vandalism by mysterious groups which, protected by hidden powers, profaned the sanctity of the place and pitilessly humiliated devout priests dedicated to worship and the parish's ministry."

He expressed the opinion that "official reactions to the event are equivocal, imprecise, and compromising inasmuch as they indicate unquestionable responsibility, and are a clue that to the new government a Catholic church is the same as a bordello and its priests are no more than the obscure entities of a mediocre sector."

Before applying for certification from the central Electoral Board PAN announced the makeup of its executive committee.

Nivar Seijas is listed as president while the first, second, and third vice presidents are Drs Miguel Angel Luna Morales, Maximo Henriquez Saladin, and engineer Manuel Minino, respectively.

Anaiboni Guerrero Baez is the general secretary and the assistant secretaries are Victor Felix Peguero, Dr Ivan Caminero, Felix Rojas, and Dr Jaime Shanlatte.

The members of the executive committee are Salvador Aybar Mella, Maj Gen (ret) Rafael de Jesus Checo, Hector Jimenez, Zenon Castillo de Aza, Jose Andres Rodriguez Ferreira, Marcos A. Rivera Cuesta, Manuel Ramon Pagan Montas, Ana Brigida Solano de Felix, Lila Penzon Salas, Andres A. Contreras, Jose Hasbun, Miguelina Cuevas, Jose Benjamin Uribe Macias, and Juan Jose Lopez.

The chairman of the Central Electoral Board, Manuel Garcia Lizardo, said that the board would study the documents filed with his agency by PAN and that in the next few days it will make known its decision regarding PAN's application for certification.

2662
CSO: 3010

PENA GOMEZ SETS UP NEW LEADERSHIP IN PRD

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 6 Dec 80 pp 1, 11

[Article by Hugo A. Ysalguez]

[Text] The secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD], Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, assumed "total power" in the organization, making changes in the leadership of the party.

At a meeting which extended into the early morning hours of yesterday, Pena Gomez accused the followers of President Antonio Guzman of neglecting "party work" and spending time on the work of their group, as he put it.

Pena Gomez nominated several candidates to the posts of department directors, who were approved by the national executive committee. It also added several top leaders of the PRD to the political committee.

Pena Gomez warned any of the members of the PRD executive committee who might be defined as "re-electionist" in outlook, observing that anyone favoring the re-election of President Guzman "will be buried by me."

A PRD source indicated that the new members of the political committee are men who "have the absolute confidence of Pena Gomez."

The secretary general of the PRD dismissed Deputy Amadeo Lorenzo Ramirez from the leadership of the labor union department and assumed control of that body himself.

The new directors of the various departments of the PRD are: Fulgencio Espinal, party doctrine; Tony Raful, press and propaganda; Dr Abraham Bautista Alcantara, international relations; Dr Yocasta Prandy, electoral affairs; and Dr Leopoldo Espaillat Nanita, technical department. Other directors include: Felipe Pimentel, equipment and transportation; Dr Frida Espinal, finance; Dr Ligia Leroux, professional affairs; Dr Almanzor Gonzalez Canahuate, organization; Dr Ivelisse Prats Ramirez de Perez, culture and education; Clementina Guzman de Ares, public relations and protocol; and Dr Leonor Sofia Sanchez Baret, women's department.

The nine members of the political committee are: Dr Aridio Garcia de Leon, Dr Rafael Moya, Rafael Sarante, Frida Martinez de Espinal, Dr Alcantara Bautista [as published], Deputy Jacinto de los Santoa, and Fulgencio Espinal.

The agrarian department consists of Manuel Alvarado Deschamps, Juan Pablo Duarte, Leocadio Guzman, and agronomist Tomas Hernanez Alberto [as published], who is the director of the Agricultural Bank.

5170
CSO: 3010

PQD'S WESSIN Y WESSIN SCORES AGRARIAN COLLECTIVES

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 24 Nov 80 pp 1, 13

[Article by Arsenio Ramirez: "The PQD's Leader Criticizes the IAD Agrarian Collectives"]

[Text] Boca de Yuma--The president of the PQD [Democratic Quisqueyan Party], Gen (ret) Elias Wessin y Wessin, said here yesterday that the IAD [Dominican Agrarian Institute] persists in imposing a system of agrarian collectives despite the fact that these are rejected by the agricultural workers.

Speaking at an event held in the offices of the PQD of this small town, the politician noted that "it has been demonstrated to the saturation point that agrarian collectives are repudiated by the Dominican peasant because they go against his wishes."

Wessin said that "it is time for the government to seek a solution to the problem of agrarian collectives since the peasant rejects the agrarian collectives because of the abuses committed in connection with these collectives."

He gave as an example the Maragua de San Rafael de Yuma project where, according to his statement, repression is practiced so that the peasants become practically peons of the state.

Wessin explained that although the agricultural workers are paid a daily or weekly wage for their subsistence, they are nevertheless not allowed to remove from their farms for their own consumption as little as one sweet potato or an ear of corn even though their children are hungry.

"I wish to denounce the fact that these peasants are being watched as if they were in a concentration camp. And what is worse is that everything that is harvested must be handed over to the National Price Stabilization Institute [INESPRE], the only buyer, which sets prices according to its whim and makes payments when the organization's executives feel like it," Wessin noted.

The topmost leader of the PQD held that "this hateful practice explains why the peasants of the region have had to flee, considering that INESPRE orders them to hand over their harvested products."

Wessin added that it seems that the authorities of the agrarian reform are trying to impose the system of agrarian collectives forcefully on agricultural workers.

Wessin asserted that this method used by that state agency is the basic reason for the major shortage of agricultural products and the consequent rise in the cost of living.

He told his followers gathered at his party's offices in Boca de Yuma that "you can be assured that the government that we shall run beginning on 16 August 1982 will broach the problems of our country's agriculture on the basis of other criteria, always striving to protect the producer as the only effective way of favoring the consumers."

Besides the San Rafael de Yuma project where, according to Wessin, the peasants are suffering from hunger and poverty, he also mentioned the areas of La Playita and Gran Chorra adjoining the Parqu Nacional del Este.

This area was declared to be a preserve protected by the government of Dr Joaquin Balaguer and there the peasants used to earn their living as farmers' aides collecting crabs, according to General Wessin.

"For the PQD, which has always looked after the needs of the peasants and the country's poor, the situation of these agricultural workers is cause for concern and should be the object of the government's attention. We recognize, however, that this government is insensitive to the sufferings of the masses, but it is our duty to denounce these things."

Elias Wessin y Wessin asked that the peasants be given work or that they be allotted land where they can labor and earn sustenance for their children.

Yesterday in Boca de Yuma, Wessin swore in the [local] officers of the PQD. He was accompanied by a group of his organization's leaders from Santo Domingo.

2662
CSO: 3010

REFORMS NEEDED TO ATTRACT WORKERS TO CANE FIELDS

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 1 Dec 80 p 2

[Text] Agronomist Manuel de Jesus Vinas Caceres, former secretary of agriculture, has said that in order to attract Dominicans to sugarcane cutting, higher wages must be paid and living conditions at the sugar mills must be improved.

In a speech at the First National Seminar on the Problems of the Hand Cutting of Sugarcane and the Mechanization of its Cultivation and Harvesting, Vinas Caceres suggested the adoption of aggressive and consistent measures in order to get Dominicans involved in sugarcane cutting.

Some of these measures are:

1. The payment of higher wages, either through the improvement of the techniques for cutting and loading or simply by increasing the price of cutting and loading sugarcane. This is one of the factors that can be the most effective in bringing about an influx of Dominican workers into the harvest areas.

2. To improve living conditions at mill-owned housing providing medical service, education, potable water and the creation of an environment suitable for people living together.

3. To lower the prices of food sold at the mills, subsidizing them if necessary, as some of the enterprises are doing. Responsibility must be assumed for the actual arrival of basic foods, such as milk, in the necessary amounts and quality.

4. To use part of the available areas for the planting of food crops and the encouragement of family gardens in order to make the family less dependent on the fluctuations in price and excessive profit margins of the intermediaries who sell food and livestock products.

5. To alternate crops in the cane fields so as to combat the seasonal character of the harvest, thus making the work more attractive, since it would make available additional sources of work and would lead to the production of basic foods which would contribute to lowering the food prices I referred to earlier, and

6. To establish government policies which oblige producers and farmers in general to give their workers and employees a real and substantial share in the profits when sugar prices permit it, instead of compelling the sugarcane producer to sub-

sidize other sectors, such as energy, industry and imports, or industrial processing sectors of questionable benefit for the national economy. It is not possible that the poorest sectors should have to support, and appear to be destined to support, the structures of the highest political level of the country.

The seminar closed Saturday afternoon with speeches by Juan Guilliani Cury, assistant director of Inazucar, and by Altagracia Rivera Castillo, who represented ATAREDO.

9204
CSO: 3010

GARCIA DISCUSSES LEFTIST ACTIVITIES, REGIONAL RELATIONS

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 14 Dec 80 p 3 Special Supplement p 3

[Interview with Col Jose Guillermo Garcia Merino, minister of defense and public security, by Silio Boccanera, Washington correspondent of JORNAL DO BRASIL, in Garcia's office in San Salvador, prior to the assassination of four American nuns]

[Text] San Salvador--Jose Guillermo Garcia, who has been minister of defense of El Salvador since the civilian-military junta has been in power, is very familiar with the country's military activities behind the wings. This quality necessarily involves him in political matters.

When he was interviewed in his office in staff headquarters here, before intensification of the present crisis caused by the assassination of opposition leaders and of four American nuns, Garcia denied the accusations of those who identify him with obscure rightist forces.

A large part of the conversation with him was concentrated on the government's military battle against the armed leftist guerrilla movement, which he regards as a creation of international communism and part of a more extensive conspiracy.

As the person with prime responsibility for the struggle against subversion in the country, Garcia estimates the strength of the guerrilla movement at 2,000 well-trained, armed fighters. He notes surprisingly that the number of sympathizers hardly reaches 5 percent of the population, a significant fact, insofar as El Salvador, with 5 million inhabitants, would then have 250,000 persons supporting the guerrilla movement. A military source attached to a foreign embassy estimates the number of trained, armed guerrilla fighters at 4,000.

[Question] What was the government's action like in its attack on guerrilla centers in Morazan Province (in the north, bordering on Honduras)?

[Answer] It was our best directed action. We searched for, destroyed, eliminated and practically liberated the region, with the exception of a few centers. But we put an end to what there was: field hospitals, some nine or 10 camps.

[Question] Then there still are some focal points there?

[Answer] Yes, but they are practically minimal.

[Question] Are there focal points in other departments (provinces or states)?

[Answer] Yes, there are some well-established centers, for example in Chalatenango, La Paz and San Vicente.

[Question] As large as the ones in Morazan?

[Answer] More or less the same. In La Paz, we discovered a camp perfectly equipped with everything most modern and necessary for subsisting.

[Question] What is your estimate on the rightist forces in the country?

[Answer] It is difficult to say, because the right acts in different ways. Those people are not here and their activities are carried out under remote control.

[Question] Are there members of the Armed Forces involved with the right?

[Answer] There may be. I cannot deny it. But it is an attitude that is personal in nature, not as an institution. Those who are against the Armed Forces, on the right and on the left, are against the government.

[Question] Are there also persons in the Armed Forces who sympathize with the left?

[Answer] It is possible. But, fortunately, as is true of the right, it is a very small percentage and they do not constitute a threat.

[Question] With the signing of the peace treaty between El Salvador and Honduras, after 11 years of misunderstanding, can military cooperation between the two countries be expected in the fight against the guerrilla movement at the border?

[Answer] Up to now, there has been no occasion, but if it should come up, we would be in a position to act jointly, because it would not concern us alone. The Hondurans know that, after us, they will be next (as a target of the guerrilla movement).

[Question] Can the same kind of military cooperation be expected with the government of Guatemala?

[Answer] I cannot say objectively. Only that there always have been good relations both with Guatemala and with Honduras, because we believe that our union is important with regard to what to do as a reaction to what may happen in our countries.

[Question] Does your government receive any assistance from the countries in the Southern Cone?

[Answer] In that regard, I can be categorical. We absolutely do not receive any assistance at all from the countries in the Southern Cone.

[Question] What is the source of the arms used by the Salvadoran guerrilla fighters?

[Answer] Many sources. Chinese, Russian, Nicaraguan, Panamanian, Venezuelan. But just as it can be said that there is assistance from other countries to them, there also is the black market on which all kinds of weapons are bought.

[Question] And who assists the Salvadoran Government militarily?

[Answer] Our equipment is basically American, bought in the past. Recently, we have been receiving things like bulletproof vests, tear gas, communications equipment and other nonlethal items from Washington. In addition to that, we are sending people to Panama (School of the Americas), where they receive training (by the United States Army) exactly so that they may learn the value of life and a respect for human rights.

(American military assistance was suspended after the assassination of four nuns from the United States, here, a week ago).

[Question] What do you expect from the new administration in the United States, with Ronald Reagan as president?

[Answer] Greater assistance and greater cooperation by the new government administration, which, according to what we understand, is completely identified with our attitude. We are a small, poor country, with a problem that is not only ours and that may give rise to activities in the Central American area, in the Caribbean and perhaps beyond.

[Question] How do you view the next 2 months in El Salvador?

[Answer] Very critical, because the left is now playing its last card. The right is also stirring. But the left believes that if the basic export crops (coffee, cotton, sugar) are not harvested, they will have achieved their objective of destroying our economy. Therefore, they are burning coffee-processing plants and sugarmills. But the Armed Forces are going to operate with an action plan exclusively for that type of subversive activity.

10,042
CSO: 3001

INA DIRECTOR COMMENTS ON IMPORTANCE OF AGRARIAN REFORM

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Dec 80 p 4

[Report on speech by Edgardo Zuniga Rodezno, executive director of the National Agrarian Institute (INA), on 8 December 1980, when he opened the 14th meeting of agrarian reform executives from Central America and the Dominican Republic]

[Text] Tegucigalpa--The executive director of the National Agrarian Institute (INA), Edgardo Zuniga Rodezno, opened the 14th meeting of agrarian reform executives from Central America and the Dominican Republic yesterday in the meeting hall of the Central Bank of Honduras.

When he spoke, Zuniga Rodezno stated that he was highly pleased to greet all the agrarian reform executives of the Central American Isthmus and of the Dominican Republic who will spend a week in this capital to examine problems confronting the area of Central America and the Caribbean with regard to agrarian reform and that he is confident that solutions are to be derived from this meeting to satisfy the aspirations of the farmers toward a better life by giving them not only the resources of land but also of the basic supplements for this complete development, so that the gap between city and countryside will be narrowed by combining efforts to integrate the agricultural, industrial and service sectors.

He also said that the government of Honduras has made the reform its basic task, because it regards it as a practical motivation in this country's economic development, because agrarian reform is not a desire but rather a necessity. By means of experience, it is becoming a course of struggle of forces between the government and the farmers to provide solutions that will find the road to the progress and well-being of Honduras. Both private enterprise and the organized farmers and international agencies are responsible for the fate awaiting us, because, unfortunately, the agrarian process is not very rapid in its solutions and these solutions are not cheap, as some persons imagine and as we all should like them to be.

We are poor, because we have not completely solved the needs of the farm majorities, but we are ready for stuggling with our situation. This is what moves us to seek the appropriate mechanism for giving true value to a process longed for by each Honduran and in which we shall be enjoying the results achieved in a not very distant future.

In conclusion and on behalf of the president of the republic, Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, he declared the meeting of agrarian executives from Central America and the Dominican Republic officially open.

10,042
CSO: 3010

BORGE DEFINES REVOLUTIONARY UNITY AT PCN CELEBRATION

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Dec 80 pp 1, 5

[Text] "When we speak to revolutionaries of unity we do not speak in terms of alliance, but integration," Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge, minister of the interior, said yesterday in an address delivered at the ceremony held to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Communist Party of Nicaragua (PCN).

The ceremony was also attended by Guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez, secretary of the Managua Departmental Leadership Committee of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front], Ivan Garcia, secretary general of the Sandinist Central Union, representatives of the Nicaraguan Trade Union Coordination body and of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

Commander Borge, a member of the national leadership of the FSLN, added that "those who oppose this type of unity objectively are counterrevolutionaries and will be regarded and dealt with as such."

It is a question of broad unity in which all should participate to defend and rebuild the country. He noted that as unity cannot be imposed by means of a decree, "we have urged it in order that we can face the dangers of an imminent threat of foreign invasion."

Commander Borge stressed that "it is necessary to struggle for the unity of all revolutionaries because without unity there can be no victory," and the tasks of the revolution should be carried out by all revolutionaries. He went on to ask how we can consolidate the revolution if everyone has his own field headquarters.

"Revolutionaries cannot afford the luxury of being guided by different standards, as historical experience, and common sense itself, including the very revolutionary essence, indicate," the Sandinist leader stressed.

Speaking of the attitude the working class should maintain in order to set forth its own claims, Commander Borge said that "we do not want to become involved in the vicious circle of the past, when income increased but so did the cost of living.

"We must struggle to increase social income through a careful policy, because it would be irresponsible and demagogic to gladden the hearts of the needy by falling into distortion of the truth," he said.

Guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez said for her part that activities pertaining to unity should not be expressed in words but in practical deeds concerning the basic aspects of defense and reconstruction of the country.

"Solutions to the differences in practice must be found," she specified.

5157
CSO: 3010

AMNESTY GRANTED PRISONERS, SENTENCES GIVEN PLOTTERS PRAISED

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 12 Dec 80 p 3

[Editorial: "Two Faces of Revolutionary Justice"]

[Text] Coinciding in time with the amnesty for more than 500 prisoners who had committed crimes against the people, the courts yesterday sentenced the accomplices of Jorge Salazar in his counterrevolutionary plot to several years in prison, finding them guilty of violating the Law on the Maintenance of Order and Public Security. The two manifestations of the action of the revolutionary courts express in integral fashion the policy of the revolution and its humanist basis.

In the first instances, this was an act of generosity designed to reintegrate in society a group of prisoners who, although their guilt had been proven in the special courts, are being given an opportunity to vindicate themselves in the eyes of the fatherland. This is an opportunity which at the same time is a test for the revolution. It is a test for them too, for they will have to show that they have abandoned the path of counterrevolution and crime forever, but it is also a test for the entire people who will have to set aside any feeling of revenge in order to put revolutionary generosity into practice and make the reincorporation of the former prisoners into normal life easier. There is basically a profound sense of justice and humanism which can only be integral when the causes of social injustice are being rooted out. In other words, within the framework of a profound revolution such as ours.

In the second instance, the firmness of revolutionary justice and the humanist principles which underlie it were made manifest too. Not only because the plotters were tried as the law guarantees they will be (with the right to defense, and with sentences consistent with the level of guilt of each one according to the evidence), but even more important than this, in trying and sentencing the counterrevolutionaries, justice was provided to all the people of Nicaragua. It was provided to all honest men who fought for peace and the revolution, and who are not willing to have it wrested away by a group of entrepreneurs joining together with those who commit genocide to bring bloodshed to the country again And the revolutionary courts measured up to the expectations of the nation by imposing exemplary punishment on the counterrevolutionaries.

They like Jorge Salazar chose their own fate in plotting against the people. Now they will have time to meditate on this wrongful path, as those who irresponsibly

wanted to make them into heroes for their propaganda campaigns should also do.

The people have also given them an opportunity to abandon the path of provocative bravura in order to join patriotically in the revolution. If they do not, they will, as this experience has already shown, come up against the unbreachable wall of revolutionary justice.

5157
CSO: 3010

HASSAN DISCUSSES RECENT AMNESTY, COUNTERREVOLUTION

Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 21 Dec 80 p 7

[Text] The last session of the "Facing the People" program this year took place yesterday.

Yesterday's session dealt mainly with the pardon of the prisoners who were being investigated by the revolutionary government and who included several former military men.

Also addressed were the negligent attitudes on the part of many officials, whose conduct recalls the days of Somoza. In view of all these concerns, our leaders clarified the reasons for their decisions and accounted publicly for their actions.

In his clarifying remarks Comrade Moises Hassan said that the war of liberation had eliminated only the guard and Somoza and that there still remained some harmful elements who do not realize what a revolutionary change means.

Another Kind of Counterrevolutionary

He clarified that people who were clearly involved in the Somoza regime have been eliminated from the government and that others have been given an opportunity.

He pointed out that many officials are also engaged in a counterrevolution by not performing their official duties as responsibly as they are expected to.

He cited the specific case of many doctors who prescribe medicines to patients in the knowledge that they are not to be found in hospital pharmacies. Then, when the patients go back and complain, they are told: There you go...Weren't you the ones that wanted a revolution? This is your revolution for you. These doctors are also engaged in a counterrevolution and are counterrevolutionaries.

Many people, he went on to say, are like the doctors who say that this is what the revolution is like. That is not true. People who are not aware or who were better off under Somoza or who are motivated by personal interest and are not willing to sacrifice themselves for their nation, do not represent our revolution.

This is a problem that is not going to be resolved in the short run. Our young people are our hope. When the children who are 10, 12, 14 or 15 years old today are 18, 20 or 25 and can become part of the revolution with a different outlook, they will be able to replace the people who fail to follow revolutionary principles today, the people who are today engaged in a counterrevolution.

When we have these new youths, without vices, without selfish interests, and who feel the best reward is the satisfaction of doing good, of being brothers, of serving each other, not just financial gain, then we will achieve success.

Meanwhile, we hope that the officials who mistreat our people join the revolution and change their attitude.

A citizen then pointed out that in the ministries, at least in the one in which he works, when a person does his duty and calls attention to mistakes, the bosses respond by charging that the person who is complying with the order that we must all see to it that things run smoothly in this country, is a counterrevolutionary and a reactionary. Commander Ortega remarked in reply that the country has inherited a bureaucratic machine from Somoza that feels that with the triumph of the revolution it has to work less.

He asserted that the entire nation was not involved in the struggle against Somoza and that, therefore, they do not have the same revolutionary awareness as the sector that was. He said that many people were not behind Somoza but did not support the front either.

He concluded by saying that while certain people have a revolutionary awareness, others do not like to be told about their mistakes. He then called on people to point out shortcomings for the purpose of overcoming them. That is constructive criticism.

He clarified that this revolution's generosity has been misinterpreted because it does not take drastic measures. We do not want to harm the people who perform poorly. We want them to change, he said, because if we fire them, we are going to be hurting their entire family. Those who fail to do their work should have part of their salary taken away; if they are guilty of this again, they should be given a different post but only as a last resort should they be fired.

Prisoner Releases

A mother whose son died during the struggle of liberation asked why so many thugs had been pardoned. She was told that the persons who had been given amnesty had been duly investigated by a 20-man team that looked into their files one-by-one and did not find sufficient grounds to keep them in prison. There were cases of real injustice. The revolution has the obligation, by principle, to punish the guilty but also to free the innocent, because there was a great deal of suffering among the families of these defendants, who were not guilty of anything.

There were cases, it was said, in which Somozists had true combatants arrested. When the CDS's [Sandinist Defense Committees] were formed, they pretended to be revolutionaries and in the sections in which they were a great many Somozists, they took control of the CDS's. They took advantage of their experience because they were Somoza's agitators.

If some criminals went free, we are all to blame because the courts published their photographs in BARRICADA so that the people could turn them in, but the civic courage to do so was lacking.

We had a sense of guilt that innocent people were in jail just because they said "Long live Somoza." If this were the rule, we would have to throw a lot of people in jail.

He concluded by noting that many of the people who were released were eleventh hour guardsmen, peasant farmers who were brought in by plane from Waslala, Rio Blanco and other spots. They were not even familiar with Managua and when the revolution triumphed, they still did not know how to use a gun. There were others who were National Guard employees, whose only crime was being accessories to criminal acts. These people have been given sentences of from 1 to 3 years, because they were not shown to have committed any other offenses.

Society has an obligation to rehabilitate criminals, who are, moreover, a burden on the state. This is a worldwide practice. We cannot have that many people doing nothing. Others were allowed to serve their sentences at home because they were ill or suffered from contagious diseases and were thus a threat to the other inmates.

As to the pain that a martyrized mother feels when these prisoners are released, Comrade Moises Hassan said that he shared this feeling because his mother and Comrade Ortega's mother had also lost a son, but they have to think about other considerations. One of them is whether or not the person is guilty. Only in this way can revolutionary justice be achieved.

This last session was attended by Comrades Daniel Ortega, Moises Hassan, Rafael Cordova Rivas and Father Ernesto Cardenal.

8743
CSO: 3010

EDUCATION MINISTER SALUTES CUBAN TEACHERS

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Dec 80 p 3

[Salute by Education Minister Carlos Tunnermann Bernheim to Cuban internationalist teachers on Cuba's Teachers Day]

[Text] When the Literacy Campaign launched by the Cuban Revolution concluded on 22 December 1961, 707,212 persons had been taught how to read and write and the illiteracy rate had dropped from 23 to 3.9 percent. Cuban teachers played a decisive role in that enormous effort, the first of its kind in Latin America's history. Some 34,772 teachers were involved in that great cultural epic, which was brought to a close by Commander Fidel Castro with the following words: "There is no moment more solemn and moving, there is no instant of greater joy, there is no minute of legitimate pride and glory like this one, because four and a half centuries of ignorance have been torn down."

In recognition of the exceptional role played by teachers in the Literacy Campaign, from that year on, 22 December has been officially celebrated as "Teachers Day" in Cuba.

Thus, Teachers Day is being celebrated today, 22 December, in our sister Republic of Cuba, and this is a fitting opportunity for us to send fraternal and revolutionaries greetings to the 2,000 Cuban internationalist teacher comrades in the "Augusto Cesar Sandino Teachers Contingent" who throughout the length and breadth of our country and in its most remote spots are working with us on the immense task of raising our people's level of education. Many of them also took part in our National Literacy Crusade and contributed to its success by teaching more than 50,000 persons how to read and write. At present, they are scattered throughout the country's smallest and most abandoned rural communities, instructing around 80,000 children and tens of thousands of adults in the Adult Popular Education Groups (CEP).

The Cuban internationlist teachers have come to Free Nicaragua prepared to take part in our great educational battle wherever they are told to serve, without asking for anything whatsoever. They have agreed to be stationed anywhere their services are needed, in communities that had never before had a school. With the aid of the communities and often with their own hands, they have erected makeshift classrooms in places where schoolchildren did not even

have a roof over their heads. They live side-by-side with our peasant farmers in a respectful manner and share their concerns. In traveling through Nicaragua you can find them in the most inaccessible spots, devoted with revolutionary fervor to their work, full of enthusiasm and happy to be serving our people and our revolution. There they are, carrying out our study programs and fulfilling their revolutionary commitment to go wherever they are asked to go, faithful to the maxim that Jose Marti the Apostle bequeathed to them: "In coming into the world, every man has the right to be educated, and then, in return, he must contribute to the education of others."

So then, let this salute of appreciation go out to the 2,000 Cuban teachers who shoulder-to-shoulder with Nicaraguan teachers are accompanying us in the great undertaking of our revolution to bring schooling to every corner of our native soil. The grateful people of Nicaragua will never forget the extraordinary and profoundly humanitarian assistance that our Cuban brothers are providing us.

Managua, 22 December 1980

8743
CSO: 3010

CRUZ ANSWERS QUESTIONS ON ARMY, TAXES, ECONOMY IN 1981

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Dec 80 pp 1, 12

[Interview with Dr Arturo Cruz, member of the Reconstruction Government Junta, on 17 December; date and place not given]

[Text] "Nineteen eighty-one will be a difficult year. We are going to be faced with major difficulties," said Dr Arturo Cruz, a member of the Reconstruction Government Junta, on 17 December.

He then added: "But the objectives of the Reactivation Plan were basically achieved in 1980."

"One of its goals was to generate employment, and I think that about 130,000 new jobs were created. Agricultural production goals were also achieved.

"Industry has begun to get moving again, and tax receipts reached unprecedented levels; in other words, they far surpassed the results of previous fiscal years.

"In addition to all this, however, what I have repeatedly been pointing out is that we are learning from our mistakes and gaining experience to move forward with a firmer step in 1981."

1981 Plan

Dr Arturo Cruz went on to say: "I think that the 1981 Plan, which is based on the two principles of austerity and experience, is well-thought-out and will work very well.

"We are, of course, going to emphasize two major efforts, one of them being the economic protection of the Nicaraguan people, by trying to safeguard their real wages and by importing whatever is necessary to make up for any shortfall in foodstuffs.

"We are going to have a tolerable price structure and we are going to boost the output of basic foodstuffs and improve their collection and distribution.

"We are, of course, going to face very difficult choices, as I said in Jinotepe, and I said that they would be difficult because the ultimate objectives of the revolution are to bring about a social transformation that will guarantee Nicaraguans health care, housing, etc, in other words, a decent living standard, and suitable retirement pay in their old age.

"To achieve this, however, we need financial resources and, therefore, we are occasionally going to have to make painful choices and give preference to production.

"I should point out that when we do this, it is because we are thinking about the social redemption of the people, in other words, economic progress as a precondition for social development, so that we can thus bring about comprehensive development, which as I have said many times, means a transformation of society."

The Army and Threats

[Question] Dr Arturo Cruz, misgivings are being voiced about the army. Do you feel that a 50,000-man force is too large for a country like ours?

[Answer] The only thing that I can say in this regard is that it is vital to the defense of the country and the revolution against any external aggression, which is very likely in the future. This is of prime importance to the country and to the government.

The ideal thing, of course, would be to some day have a firmly established social peace throughout the country that would make the army unnecessary, but in the meantime there is no alternative. We have to prepare to defend ourselves.

Restructuring INRA [National Institute for Agrarian Reform]

[Question] Arturo, what can you tell us about the restructuring of INRA?

[Answer] I still cannot provide any details, but there is a restructuring going on to make it more functional, and this is going to be made public soon.

I would rather not do it myself because it is my understanding that the minister of agricultural development-INRA, Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock Roman, is going to make the announcement when the time comes.

Local Board Taxes

[Question] Doctor, what do you have to say about the new taxes that were included in the Municipal Taxes Plan by the Managua Reconstruction Board?

[Answer] The only thing I know is that the comrade minister is doing a very praiseworthy job in rebuilding Managua and has been very earnest about collecting taxes to finance these projects. I don't know what you are referring to specifically.

[Question] Well, these new taxes on residents of the capital seem to be hurting working class areas proper, as well as electricity bill collections and others.

[Answer] One of the biggest problems facing us is that we need to raise an enormous amount of revenue through taxes to gradually reduce our overseas indebtedness. If we continue to finance our investments 100 percent with overseas borrowing, we are going to become intolerably dependent.

[Question] How is our currency doing, Arturo?

[Answer] It is holding firm.

Swing Through Carazo

[Question] Doctor, I learned that you and several members of your cabinet made a swing through several cities and towns in Carazo on 17 December. What can you tell us in this connection?

[Answer] For quite some time the National Reconstruction Junta had intended to visit three towns in the department of Carazo, Jinotepe, Diriamba and Santa Teresa, to hear out the concerns of the citizens there and to learn more about the problems that they face.

With this in mind, I traveled there on the morning of the 17th with the following ministers and officials:

Fernando Guzman, president of the National Development Bank; the minister of social welfare, Father Edgard Parrales; the minister of foreign trade, Dionisio Marenco; the deputy minister of the Agricultural Development Ministry, Salvador Mayorga; the regional director of INRA, Eduardo Holmann Chamorro; the deputy minister of education, Francisco Guzman Pasos, and the director of ENCAFE, Jose Angel Buitrago, as well as local authorities from these three cities.

We had a very interesting get-together. We took stock of the area's main problems, which naturally had to do with health care, education, housing, street maintenance, problems connected with landownership, which the peasant farmers brought up with us, and financing production. I can state with some satisfaction that several of those problems were taken care of right there. Others are going to be resolved in stages, and of course there are some that cannot be resolved immediately and will be put under study.

At the House of Culture

[Answer continued] In Diriamba we had a very interesting meeting at the House of Culture, where I was able to observe a fabulous ecumenical spirit.

Men such as Vicente Rappacciolli, Raul Estrada, etc were gathered there in the most amicable of atmospheres with Sandinist Youth, the front's rank-and-file units, etc. I saw two extremely beautiful revolutionary ballets.

The directors of the House of Culture, one of whom is a young woman who is also the principal of the Inmaculada School, have done an extraordinary job. They had an exquisite Nativity scene; rarely have I seen one as pretty.

Naturally, we carried on a very good dialog there with the citizens, who brought up various kinds of problems, including food distribution. There was a cooperative of small merchants that pointed out several difficulties they were having in their activities, and we offered to iron them out for them.

8743
CSO: 3010

ROAD CONSTRUCTION BRIGADE RETURNS FROM NORTH

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 14 Dec 80 pp 1, 5

[Excerpts] More than 200 workers from the Batahola Training Center gave a triumphal welcome to 67 workers in the Pablo Ubeda Brigade who spent more than a month building access roads in the northern part of our country so that the export harvests can be brought out of the regions lacking communications routes.

The production guerrillas of the Managua Reconstruction Board, equipped with 40 trucks, 3 mechanical shovels, 3 patrols and 2 tractors, built or repaired 200 linear kilometers of access roads between 9 November and the 12th of this month, in the departments of Jinotega, Matagalpa, Esteli and Nueva Segovia.

Welcoming Ceremony

The main ceremony began with an address by the secretary general of the workers' trade union of the Managua Reconstruction Board, Joaquin Espinoza Amaya.

He expressed his great joy at "knowing there were comrades able to measure up to a task assigned by the revolution."

He added that the "areas where the workers of the Pablo Ubeda Brigade built tracks and roads are the same sites through which our martyrs and heroes, such as Boanerges Santamaria and Modesto Duarte, passed."

Contribution to Unity

He said that the production guerrillas of the Managua Reconstruction Board not only built roads but also contributed to the integration of the workers and the peasants.

"You return triumphant, setting an example in the mountains," Minister of the Managua Reconstruction Board Samuel Santos said in his address during the ceremony held to welcome the members of the Pablo Ubeda Brigade.

He said that the work done by the production guerrillas of the Managua Reconstruction Board is of extreme importance to the process and consolidation of the Sandinist people's revolution.

"The work you have done will now allow us to bring out the harvest to buy machines, tractors and medicines so much needed by our people," the minister stressed.

Welcome by National Leadership

"I come on behalf of the national leadership to welcome your production guerrilla brothers who went to the mountains to continue the work the unforgettable Pablo Ubeda began," Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion said at the beginning of the ceremony.

He recalled the old paths traveled by the Sandinist guerrilla fighters, saying that it is these paths the workers of the Managua Reconstruction Board have transformed into roads.

"The support and supplies the Sandinist Front obtained from the peasants are the same as the support and supplies you received while you were there," Commander Carrion said.

He termed the activity of the Pablo Ubeda Brigade of the greatest importance, because "it is a concrete expression of the depth of the changes, the depth of the revolution in our country and in the minds of our working people."

On Peasant Exploitation

He spoke of the historical exploitation of the peasants, saying that the farm workers were the most exploited people in Nicaragua and, paradoxically, it is they who produce the foreign exchange earned by the main export products.

He said that "the farm production surpluses were used in the past in the cities, they were not shared among the workers, but among the capitalist exploiters, the members of the bourgeoisie, while the workers in the rural sector remained always impoverished. It is this situation the revolution wants to transform," he added.

"It fills us with emotion to know that many workers from the city were prepared to leave their homes and families to go and build the access roads the revolution needs," he said.

Worker-Peasant Unity

He stressed that the activity of the Pablo Ubeda Brigade reflects a drastic change in thinking: our workers are going to the homes of the peasants to join them as brothers in their work.

Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion recalled that an effort was always made to divide the workers and the peasants, adding that "we want to make our workers, our people, brothers."

After speaking of the extraordinary and incredible lag imposed upon our people by the Somoza regime and the foreign and domestic capitalists, he discussed the need to modernize our farm production.

He stressed that our people have given evidence of an extraordinary awareness, which makes the revolution irreversible precisely because it is supported by the people, "an immensely generous, not petty, people, who know how to sacrifice themselves in the mountains, making our people great among all the peoples of the world."

Commander Carrion said that the workers in the Pablo Ubeda Brigade set an example for all the workers of Nicaragua.

He appealed to the workers throughout the country to try to outdo the workers of the Managua Reconstruction Board who went to the mountains in the new tasks, but he also appealed to the latter not to let themselves be overtaken, to continue to set an example for all.

Finally, he said that the greatest stimulus the members of the Pablo Ubeda Brigade had "was the warmth, the gratitude of the humble residents in the mountain areas. This is the best thanks, the best encouragement, the best medal," he said in conclusion.

5157
CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

NEW MILITIA GRADUATES--More than 500 militiamen from Esteli and its surroundings held their graduation dav yesterday, Friday, with their EPS [People's Sandinist Army] military instructors, in a setting of the green mountains of Jinotega and enjoying the delightfully cool air of the area. The speeches and the prizes awarded to the most outstanding graduates were witnessed by all, from 13-year-old children to old persons almost 60 years old, carrying EZ-M52 7.62 caliber automatic rifles. [sentence as published] [Excerpt] [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 13 Dec 80 pp 1, 9] 10,042

CSO: 3010

PDC PRESIDENT CRITICIZES FOREIGN POLICY, ECONOMIC CRISIS

Caracas RESUMEN in Spanish 14 Dec 80 pp 59-61

[Interview with Panamanian Christian Democratic Party president, Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon, by Jose Suarez-Nunez, in Caracas, during November 1980]

[Text] The Torrijos-Carter treaty, which was so cleverly promoted, enables the United States to intervene militarily in Panama in perpetuity, whenever it deems such action fitting. Torrijo interventionism was present in Nicaragua in the past, and is present in El Salvador currently, and the Panamanians are annoyed because foreign rulers (friends of Torrijos) are participating in their treaties and making decisions about them, while the National Guard exclaims: "We need Torrijos for life."

Salvador Allende's victory in Chile, when he ousted the Christian Democrat Eduardo Frei from power, and Lorenzo Fernandez' defeat in Venezuela in 1968, were significant failures for the Christian Democrats in the hemisphere.

However, 10 years later, when Luis Herrera Campins returned to power, the Christian Democrats received a new impetus. The excitement began in several nations of the hemisphere in which the Christian Democrats are active, from Ecuador to El Salvador, without excluding the countries of the Southern Cone.

Meanwhile, the Latin American Institute for Christian Democratic Training, with its headquarters in Los Chorros, has not wasted any time. Thus far this year, there was a meeting in the city of Cordoba, Argentina, to analyze topics relating to the South American nations; the Christian Democrats from the Caribbean and Central America met in Lago de Yojoa, Honduras; and, from 24 to 29 November of this year, in the quiet Hotel Avila, in Caracas, major Christian Socialist leaders gathered to review the "green" doctrine.

The issues were meaningful: pluralism and political discretion; methods for political action; demands and political consequences of the preferential option of faith on the part of the poor; requirements and limitations of political denunciation; and the trend toward a value system for a social concept of the economy.

The visitors included Panama, represented by the president of that country's Christian Democratic Party, Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon. Giving up the seminar, and while the participants were listening to the debates discussing the area of political action, the commitment to the poor, how to reconcile the demands of the economy with politics and the limitations of pluralism, the president of the Christian Democratic Party of Panama told RESUMEN:

"For the past 12 years, General Torrijos has controlled the political situation in Panama in one way or another; it is his government and, of course, National Guard. And therefore, the state in which the country finds itself is directly attributable to him. For us Panamanians who have gone abroad, it is always a source of disappointment to realize that the situation is very negative, but that is not perceived outside.

"During the period preceding Torrijos' coup d'etat in 1968, the Panamanian gross domestic product increased by an average of 8 percent annually. Since Torrijos has been controlling the political situation, the gross product has been cut in half; it is about 4 percent. The economic growth of Panama has been destroyed by the Torrijos regime, and this is reflected in an unemployment rate that stands at approximately 17 percent. It has remained at that rate for the past 3 years, without counting the galloping rise in underemployment.

"A reliable, conservative firm in Panama is of the opinion that about 100,000 Panamanians are unemployed, considering the fact that the work force amounts to 650,000 persons, and the population totals 1.8 million. And there is another total of 100,000 persons who are in a state of underemployment."

RESUMEN: What is the amount of Panama's debt?

RAC: At the present time, the Panamanian debt has reached the astronomical sum of $3 billion (13 billion bolivares). The service on that public debt is currently consuming 51 percent of the integrated (central government and autonomous entities) national budget. Since the Panamanian budget totals 3.4 billion bolivares per year, the debt service consumes 1.7 billion bolivares annually. In June of last year, the International Monetary Fund held the view that the Panamanian foreign debt status was the worst in the Western Hemisphere, and imposed on Panama a very strict discipline with regard to additional indebtedness.

RESUMEN: What is the hardest hit sector of the Panamanian economy?

RAC: The sector hardest hit by this economic crisis is the agricultural-livestock, the rural sector. Panama's agricultural and livestock production has retained a a growth rate that does not exceed 1 percent per year, and has remained in a state of crisis for about 10 years. There are situations such as this. Nowadays, we produce less corn than was produced 10 years ago. We have fewer head of cattle per inhabitant than we had 10 years ago.

RESUMEN: And what about the international status of the Canal?

RAC: A Panamanian author once said that Panama is a country that lives out in the open because, historically, owing to the Canal problem, and even before its construction, we have been a nation open to all international influences. Therefore, the international realm is something supplementary and fundamental to Panama. Now, the most noteworthy feature of General Torrijos' image is the Torrijos-Carter treaty. Internally, during the early years of the Torrijos dictatorship, what was most justified from the standpoint of that regime was the need to attain national liberation through the renegotiation of the treaties; and then an entire series of repressive measures of the Torrijos dictatorship was justified.

RESUMEN: Then they are not satisfied with the Torrijos-Carter treaty?

RAC: I daresay the majority of us Panamanians feel very much cheated. As anyone knows, the matter that most affected the Panamanians in all their relations with the United States was the original Convention of 1903, which was in perpetuity. The goal of the perpetuity was converted into a claim. .

RESUMEN: And it has not turned out that way?

RAC: If one studies the Torrijos-Carter treaties, one finds that, in the first one, there is an agreement that, by the year 2000, the Canal will come under the ownership and actual administration of Panama.

In the past, Panama was receiving an average of $2.5 million; this year, it received $72 million. But in the second treaty, which is called a "treaty of neutrality," there is something very odd; because it stipulates, without any time limit,that is, also in perpetuity, for this Canal or another one, a right by the United States to intervene in any part of the national territory when, in the unilateral view of the United States, such intervention would be feasible for the defense of the Canal. Anything in Panama's national existence which could affect the free passage or the facilities through the Canal allows the United States, unilaterally, to intervene, as the text states, even militarily.

The first treaty, in 1903, did give the United States almost sovereign control over a strip of land, but it could not intervene elsewhere in the country. Now, it can intervene, even militarily, in any part of the national territory. Now, we find that we have a new type of perpetuity, the right to intervention. The arbitration clause signed by General Torrijos is also disturbing, because they signed a treaty without an arbitration clause.

RESUMEN: What is the nature of the international relations with the neighbors?

RAC: Panama's international policy is a contradiction, and it is extremely interventionist with regard to the affairs of other states. The most obvious example is that of Nicaragua. On that occasion, many people disregarded the intervention, because it was against a tyrant, and all of us democrats wanted the downfall of the tyrant. But types of intervention were established. Men, arms and funds passed through Panama, and governments which did not occupy any national territory came to be recognized. The government of Panama recognized the Nicaraguan Provisional Reconstruction Junta when it had not yet occupied an inch of Nicaraguan territory, when it was still in Costa Rica.

That has not ended. I am convinced that the present Panamanian regime is pursuing the line of interventionism, and in this instance it is aimed at the Salvadoran situation. In two specific instances during the past 12 months, the declarations regarding El Salvador have contained political judgments concerned with Salvadoran problems, which were interventionist in nature.

RESUMEN: Has the intervention been verbal, or is there evidence of physical intervention, as in the case of Nicaragua?

RAC: A couple of months ago, there was an incident with some airplanes which arrived in El Salvador, one of which had an accident. The planes were carrying weapons.

Those airplanes took off from Panama, at least one of them did, and probably both did. Those airplanes left Panama without weapons, and appear to have picked them up in Costa Rica. However, one of those planes was under the supervision of the Panamanian Air Force. It had been confiscated, and was turned over by a judge to the custody of the Panamanian Air Force.

RESUMEN: Did the Panamanian Air Force authorize its departure?

RAC: The explanation that has been given is complicated, but does not explain the fundamental aspects. The airplane, in the custody of the Panamanian Air Force, takes off from Panama, and picks up weapons in Costa Rica. It takes the weapons to El Salvador, and the aircraft's pilot, a Panamanian named Cesar Rodriguez, has an accident while landing. Another plane picks him up, and takes him back to Panama, leaving the damaged plane in El Salvador. That individual is moving about with complete freedom in Panama and, insofar as we know, he is not being prosecuted. And that is how it turned out.

Subsequent incidents have shown that the position of the Panamanian Government, intervening in other countries, is still active. Upon returning from a trip to the Middle East, the former Panamanian vice minister of health, Dr Hugo Espadafora, cited the need to organize Bolivarian Brigades to render international service on behalf of the national liberation of other nations of the Caribbean and Central America. The official response from the Panamanian minister of government and justice was like "washing his hands," when he announced that he had nothing to do "with anything like that."

Many Panamanians are annoyed at General Torrijos' personalist attitude, and do not know when his foreign policy is being conducted between states, through the usual diplomatic channels, and when it is being carried out between "friendly rulers." The Treaty of Monteria is the most telling example, when the National Guard staff chief appeared at the National Legislative Council (the 505) and, at the legislators' bench itself, stated that they must approve the Treaty of Monteria, "because, if this is not done, the Colombian Army might take measures."

Upon leaving the legislative chamber, the deputy chief of the Panamanian National Guard made two significant points: 1. We need Torrijos for life; and, 2. the activities of the National Guard during the past 48 hours will be necessary from now on, because we shall be experiencing difficult times. And, finally, there was the statement made public to the effect that, "General Torrijos gave his word to his friend, President Lopez Michelsen of Colombia, and he cannot make a bad impression."

This referred to the Treaty of Monteria, whereby Colombia will have privileges in using the Canal.

In the dispassionate view of international observers, this position depicted a Republic of Panama administered in a personal manner by Torrijos, as if it were a family household.

The president of the Christian Democratic Party of Panama described the incident in his own words: "It was reprehensible behavior. Torrijos requested and allowed the presence of foreign rulers in negotiations which were between two countries. It is lawful to exert pressure in international agencies, through diplomatic channels,

but there were times in the negotiation of the Panama Canal Treaty when those negotiating the treaty were foreign rulers. In the end, that causes animosity among peoples, and now we are observing a certain amount of animosity toward Colombia."

Faced with a rather discouraging situation, the presidential elections are being scheduled for 1984, and one notes the suggestion, if not the threat, in the statements made by the deputy chief of the Panamanian National Guard, who remarked: "There can be no Torrijism without Torrijos."

The recent experience of partial elections after 12 years, wherein the government used all the resources of power, enlisting public employees and using official vehicles, and despite that pressure 51 percent of the electorate voted against the government, discloses an indisputable outcry of opposition, in spite of the absence of the Panamanian Party, and Dr Arnulfo Arias, who has a sizable electoral following, which would have minimized the figures for the parties allied with the government.

The gloomiest aspect is that, whereas General Torrijos' public relations show him to many as a leader of democracy and human rights abroad, any Panamanian would like that theory of democracy which Torrijos advocates beyond the nation's borders to be permitted in Panama.

2909
CSO: 3010

NEW APRA GROUP CALLS FOR PARTY UNITY

Lima EXPRESSO in Spanish 30 Nov 80 p 2

> [Text] The so-called "Chan Chan Group," which includes more than 100 leaders throughout the country--most of them under 40 years of age and all of them direct followers of Haya de la Torre--and whose single goal is to end the bossism and divisions which currently affect that Peruvian political movement so intensely, has gained some prominence within the Peruvian Aprista Party.

That Chan Chan Group may issue this week a "Manifesto to the Nation," the scope of which will be similar to that issued by the party in 1931, when Haya de la Torre announced the "Maximum and Minimum APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] Plan."

Although there are no visible heads of the group, it is known that it includes Roy Soto, of Arequipa, Tomas Pinna, Alfonso Orrego Moreno, Josmell Munoz (Pasco), Cesar Lopez Silva, Miguel Angellats (Trujillo), Jorge Torres Vallejo, Guillermo Baco Linares, Carlos Dolorier, Tomas Evangelista (Ayacucho), Percy Murillo and Juan Silva Medina, among others.

Of the present APRA leadership, Jorge Idiaquez, Rafael Eguren, Alfonso Ramos Alva, Luis Negreiros, Alfredo Swayne, Juan Manuel Ontaneda and Juana Castro have expressed their agreement and support.

The original meeting of the Chan Chan Group was held at the home of Felipe Cosio del Pomar, a well-known Peruvian painter and close friend of Haya de la Torre.

Total Restructuring

This movement, which in principle respects the present leadership of the party, will seek, through a program to be implemented among the rank and file, to rally the internal unity of APRA around the image of Haya de la Torre.

"We must act on the premise of Haya de la Torre's immortality, as if he were actually still living, and as if they were killing the party," a spokesman said.

There must be no "sacred cows" within the party; nobody must have two or three positions, because in reality nobody will have one. The parliamentarians will

belong to the "parliamentary division of the organization" and will devote themselves exclusively to that chore. The district committees throughout the country will be reorganized before 22 February 1981; the so-called "Gonzalez Prada Popular Universities" will be reopened, as will the schools for leaders. These are some of the most urgent projects of the Chan Chan Group.

Message to the Nation

The document, which is being carefully prepared, will contain a broad analysis of the Aprista doctrine, tailoring it to the present social configuration of the country, because there is an attempt to interpret what Peru will be like from 1980 to the next century.

There is a consensus in this group that implacable self-criticism of the party is urgent and that Aprism must be built within the organization. For this reason, they say, it is necessary to form a party life, to attend debates, to argue in the universities, work centers and unions and to get rid of desk-bound leaders.

Aprism and Communism

In like manner, the Chan Chan Group believes in and reaffirms the non-Marxist position of APRA, and states that there is no positive rapproachement with communism.

There are substantial differences in doctrine which lead its members to reject communism as a factor in its identity. On the other hand, they confirm the democratic vocation of APRA and its defense of the system and of the present democratic regime.

APRA and the Armed Forces

The Manifesto also expresses the incongruence of insisting on removing APRA from the armed forces, considering that in the present circumstances it is impossible to govern without the military organizations, and even worse to try to do so against them. To join APRA with the armed forces is to integrate the people into its context, they say.

They also believe that the social evolution of the country indicates that the armed forces can no longer defend the right.

The Image of Haya

All that work will be done around the figure of Haya de la Torre, starting with his famous saying, contained in his "Anti-Imperialism and the APRA": "There are no good or bad people, only good and bad leaders. If we lose, it is because of the leaders and not because of the people."

The Manifesto also emphasizes the slogan, "Faith, Unity, Discipline and Action." Portraits of all of APRA's martyrs and leaders will be hung in local party headquarters, but above them all will be that of Haya de la torre, it adds.

There will be internal general elections before 22 February, and all 81 of the Aprista commands will concentrate on the rank and file.

The great majority of the members of this Chan Chan Group were direct followers of Haya de la Torre, and among them are the members of the last Aprista directorate of the Peruvian Student Federation in 1966. Almost all of them are under 40 years of age.

8735
CSO: 3010

BELAUNDE TO DISCUSS NATIONAL MUNICIPAL ACTION PLAN WITH MAYORS

Lima CORREO in Spanish 1 Dec 80 p 3

[Article by special correspondent Laureano Carnero Checa]

[Text] Ica, 30 Nov--President Belaunde announced yesterday in Ica during CADE 80 [Annual Conference of Business Executives] that he will call a coordination meeting of all the mayors in Lima in December to draw up a plan of nationwide municipal action and that the government will arrange, through the minister of economy and finance, a large municipal credit with the World Bank.

He called it the Ica Summons, since he called the meeting from the balconies of the city hall there before thousands of Icans.

Two-Thirds Vote Noted

Before repeating this announcement at the CADE meeting, Belaunde said it was "highly significant that this conference is taking place almost parallel with the municipal elections, because the municipalities are really local enterprises, but they are local enterprises selected not by stockholders, but by all the people, and many times the choices in outlying districts are made by people who may be very humble, but who truly represent their community."

He added: "For that reason we must value this victory, which is not only a political victory. Peru has organized itself into many community enterprises, which are going to assume command by mandate of the people next 1 January."

Then he said that he "noted with great gratitude the fact that the Peruvian people have seen fit to honor my party, giving it practically two-thirds of the municipalities in the departmental capitals, two-thirds in the provincial capitals and two-thirds in all the districts in Peru."

Tribute to Remaining One-Third

However, he indicated that "it is not those two-thirds which concern me now, because they are very close and we are coordinated with them. The tribute I wish to render now is to the other third, which represents very respectable ideologies throughout Peru." Heavy applause greeted these remarks of the president.

Second Restoration

Belaunde then said he would like to show "that just as the government acted with the greatest impartiality during the process, so it will act during the administration of these authentic municipalities. I cannot hide the fact that I have been tempted to go out--how could I not be tempted to go to meetings of my own party? I have almost had to tie myself to the presidential chair to keep from going out to share with all my coreligionists the emotion of this second municipal restoration." Heavy and prolonged applause followed.

He added that "the significance of these elections, along with the efforts made here, is simply to wish to consolidate a constitutional regime, a civilized way of life. Peru's democratic plan has been completed and this has had a widespread effect overseas."

Appointment in Lima

The president emphasized that "since the last elections we have had the conviction that Peru's credit capacity has been consolidated, that respectability--which is not personalized, after all, in us, but rather in the very people who created the system--that the respectability of the system is going to result in great benefits for the country. But we must bear in mind that it is, above all, at the beginning of an administration that one can specify the big credit operations that will not be harmful to the country: that is, that the terms be long and the conditions very favorable."

Then he revealed that from the city hall "I have just issued the Ica Summons, which is closely related to the IPAE [Peruvian Institute of Business Administration]--an Ica summons which is an invitation to all the mayors in Peru, all the provincial mayors, to come to Lima to a coordination meeting, to talk as equals to the legislative and executive branches, in order to put together a plan of action in which all the towns in Peru may participate."

World Bank

"When I spoke with Prime Minister Ulloa," he continued, "we saw the possibility of arranging a municipal credit, a small municipal loan, for the poorer villages, surely through the World Bank."

In this way, the president pointed out, these resources will filter down "to even the last small village in Peru."

8715
CSO: 3010

UNITED LEFT TO SUPPORT ORREGO

Lima LA CRONICA in Spanish 30 Nov 80 p 3

[Text] Dr Alfonso Barrantes Lingan said yesterday that the United Left (IU) will support and cooperate with the metropolitan council, whose mayor-elect is Eduardo Orrego Villacorta, in all areas and tasks which favor the interests of the people.

This willing and constructive support will extend to all district and provincial councils without exception, so that local governments may also support the just demands of the people, said the IU leader.

Barrantes made these brief statements at the Jorge Chavez International Airport, where he had gone to meet a member of his family arriving home from a journey outside the country.

He said that had he been elected mayor of Lima, he would have chosen to introduce the trolleybuses as the most functional and economical means of solving the problem of urban mass transportation.

The streetcars are very costly and need tracks, which is not true of the trolleybuses, he said. Concerning the problem of itinerant peddlers, he said there is need for commercial schedules, but he was against the rigid zones proposed by mayor-elect Orrego.

The peddlers should work established schedules and in well-traveled areas, as they do in other countries in America and Europe.

He said that to alleviate this serious problem the Peddlers' Fund should be encouraged to carry out social service and health tasks.

In many important cities the peddlers use the streets during certain hours, leaving them free for pedestrian and vehicular traffic after a rigorous cleaning by the peddlers themselves. These habits should be encouraged, he said.

In this regard, he emphasized that the IU council members who will join Orrego in his mayoralty are men of great ability and professional acumen, who have a complete plan to try to improve Lima's image and conditions. This plan has been properly studied.

Barrantes also announced that in a recent meeting with the six major fronts which comprise the United Left he was elected president of this organization, with a view to strengthening its unity and competing with greater cohesion in the next municipal and presidential elections.

He also said there will be a big meeting on 13 and 14 December of IU mayors and council members on the national level to plan local government projects and other political tasks.

8735
CSO: 3010

MAJORITY IN CARACAS OPINION POLL FINDS GOVERNMENT INEFFECTIVE

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 21 Dec 80 Sec 1 p 12

[Article by Jose Villalba: "In November Gaither Poll, 69 Percent Say Government Talks Much, Does Little"]

[Text] The belief of 69 percent of the citizens of Caracas is that the current government talks a great deal, but is not achieving what it should to the benefit of the people, according to the most recent opinion survey made by Gaither International.

Only 16 percent of those surveyed believe that the government is achieving positive results for the collective, and 15 percent had no opinion in this regard.

Moreover, the survey revealed a great lack of confidence in the government program. Only 20 percent of the people expressed the view that they will be positive in the future, while the contrary opinion was held by 61 percent.

As to the economic and personal assessment of 1980, 21 percent of those surveyed said it was positive, 56 percent said normal, and 23 percent said it was bad.

However, the prospects for 1981 are more optimistic. Forty-one percent of the people surveyed believe that it will be better economically, 21 percent say worse and 26 percent say the same.

The survey reflects the opinions of the Caracas community represented by a sampling of 500 persons 18 years of age or older. Personal interviews took place during the last 3 weeks of November.

The following are the results of the Gaither International opinion poll.

Opinions on the Economic Situation

The citizens of Caracas are dissatisfied with their personal economic situation. In fact, opinions did not change throughout the year. Four out of 10 persons or more have said since February that they are now "worse off" economically than 2 or 3 years ago, and only 2 out of 10 say they are "better off."

The specific opinion percentages are shown below.

Personal Economic Situation

"Would you say that your personal situation is better, worse or more or less the same as it was let us say 2 or 3 years ago?"

	February	June	November
Better	21%	19%	21%
Worse	40%	45%	44%
Same	38%	36%	34%
No opinion	--	--	1%

The dissatisfaction with personal economic status was found on all socioeconomic levels in the city, but especially among the poor. The negative environment was especially evident among those with least education. The higher the economic or educational level of the individual, the less any negative economic effect was evident.

The opinions of these categories were broken down as follows.

Personal Situation

	Worse	Better	Same	No Opinion
Socioeconomic Level	%	%	%	%
A/B/C (upper and middle)	35	22	42	1
D (lower middle)	50	19	30	1
E (poor)	56	22	21	1
Educational Level				
University	31	23	46	--
High school	46	24	31	--
Complete primary	48	18	32	--
Incomplete primary or none	51	16	30	3

In any case, although the attitudes could be described as "dissatisfied," it would be incorrect to describe them as "irate." Only 2 out of 10 individuals say that things went "well" for them in 1980, but at the same time, only 2 out of 10 said that things went really "badly." The majority described the year as "ordinary." And 4 out of 10 persons said that things will be "better" in 1981, as opposed to only 2 out of 10 who said things will be "worse."

The specific percentages are shown below.

"During 1980 specifically, would you say that things went well, as usual or badly?"

Well	21%
As usual	56%
Badly	23%
No opinion	--

"And how do you view the coming year? From what you know or believe, do you believe that things will go better, worse or more or less the same in 1981 as in 1980?"

Better	41%
Worse	21%
Same	26%
No opinion	12%

Opinion of the Government

Basically, the public now feels as before that the government has not functioned vigorously. The level of concern about this lack of activity has not changed in the past 5 months. A clear majority of the public not only believes that the government "is not achieving what it should," but also expresses open disapproval of its policies and definite lack of confidence in the ability of these policies to resolve the economic problems of the country.

In September of last year, there was still a plurality of general approval for the policies and programs of the government, despite the fact they had not borne fruit. By February, this approval had become disapproval, although only disapproval by a minority. Now, 6 out of every 10 residents of the capital voice this disapproval.

The specific percentages are shown below.

General Approval or Disapproval

"Many say that what we achieve will depend on what the government does. If we continue with the systems and programs of the present government, do you believe that Venezuela will achieve the prosperity it merits or not?"

	September 1979	February 1980	June 1980	November 1980
	%	%	%	%
Yes, the programs will bring results	45	35	20	20
No	34	47	62	61
No opinion	21	18	15	19

Opinion on What the Government Has Achieved

	September 1979	February 1980	June 1980	November 1980
	%	%	%	%
Which best expresses your view: "We have a government which talks a great deal but is not achieving what it should for the people"	41	56	75	69

"We have a dynamic government which is achieving a great deal for the people"	28	25	15	16
No opinion	31	19	10	15

Disapproval is concentrated particularly in certain sectors of the population of the capital. The negative view is more common among those with at least a primary education, and more common among young adults than among older adults. It is somewhat less common on the upper and middle economic levels (A/B/C) than on the lower levels, somewhat less common among women than among men, and substantially less common among foreigners than among Venezuelans.

The current percentages of general approval and disapproval are broken down below.

	Approve %	Disapprove %	No Opinion %
Total population	16	69	15
Socioeconomic Level			
A/B/C (upper and middle)	18	61	21
D (lower middle)	13	76	11
E (poor)	19	74	7
Educational Level			
University	16	71	13
High school	15	72	13
Complete primary	15	70	15
Incomplete primary or none	22	57	21
Age			
18-29	15	72	13
30-44	12	75	13
45 or over	21	59	20
Sex			
Male	17	71	12
Female	16	66	18
Citizenship			
Venezuelan	16	70	14
Foreign	13	56	31

Despite their current complaints, the people in Caracas almost universally continue to have confidence in the capacity of some president to resolve the country's problems. Although they have not yet been resolved, they believe that the problems are capable of solution. These attitudes have changed little in the last 5 months. Three out of every four individuals continue to hold this view. The specific percentages are shown below.

	February	June	November
	%	%	%
Which best expresses your view:			
"The problems of Venezuela are so complex that no president can resolve them"	17	20	15
"A good president can resolve the majority of Venezuela's problems"	76	73	76
No opinion	6	7	9

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NUNEZ ARISMENDI WARNS AGAINST PLAN VI ON NEWS MEDIA

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 20 Dec 80 Sec 2 p 1

[Text] Dr Luis Teofilo Nunez Arismendi, editor of EL UNIVERSAL, announced yesterday afternoon that he will immediately resume the presidency of the IAPA.

At a press conference he held in his office, he reiterated his readiness to continue to work for freedom of expression both in Venezuela and on the continent as a whole.

Nunez Arismendi was accompanied by defense lawyer Rene Buroz Arismendi and a number of the executives of this daily newspaper, as well as a group of friends.

Among other things, he voiced critical comment about the portion of the draft of the VI National Plan pertaining to mass communications media.

As president of the IAPA and the Venezuelan Press Bloc, he termed this text a threat to freedom of expression in our country.

A few hours earlier, the superior judge of the Fifth Federal District had revoked the warrant for the arrest of the newspaper editor issued by the judge of the Fourth Criminal Court of the First Instance.

The superior judge, Dr Nunez Tenorio, said that the actions considered by the Criminal Court of the First Instance were not of a criminal nature and that there was no fraud and therefore no crime.

At the beginning of his interview with reporters, the editor of EL UNIVERSAL said he had learned three things:

"1) That it is very dangerous for independents to engage in mercantile operations with state bodies.

"2) I have many more friends than I thought, and I must express my thanks to them for the support they gave me in the moment of difficulty.

"3) I have discovered the high humanitarian and educational level of our metropolitan police. During the time I spent in their custody, I was able to associate with the police agents, to get to know them and realize that the metropolitan police force has a high sense of consideration and respect.

"I especially wish to thank Commander Ferreira Zambrano and all of the officers in Zone 2 of the police organization for the consideration they showed me.

"I have already kept my promise to the IAPA to take some time to clarify the honor of my name. Having done so, as of today I am assuming the presidency of the organization in order to continue my struggle in defense of freedom of expression in Venezuela, mainly, because it is my country, and throughout the continent, because that is my obligation as president of the IAPA.

"Without freedom of expression there is no freedom for the peoples. Respect for human rights is based on freedom of expression," Dr Nunez Arismendi said.

He also stressed that he will continue to defend the postulate of freedom of expression and will not cease to do so even though it may bring difficulties upon him.

He was asked by one of the journalists if he might think that the present administration is pursuing any policy against the communications media. "In fact we have a draft proposal for the VI National Plan which is extremely threatening to freedom of expression in Venezuela. It is based on the Ratelve Plan and the MacBride Plan, which have been intensively discussed in the UNESCO. As you know, the UNESCO has majority representation of the totalitarian countries, and this majority outweighs the democratic nations, which are regrettably a minority in the world today."

In his view the VI Plan seems to have been drafted on the basis of the proposals and suggestions put forth in the UNESCO in connection with the MacBride Plan.

Luis Teofilo Nunez Arismendi believes that if this kind of provision is adopted in our country then freedom of expression will sustain serious damage.

"If this should occur we would have to combat it. But it is my hope that a democratic government will not approve what has been suggested there by individuals who are not truly democratic, but who have totalitarian inclinations."

Later he was questioned about the dispute which developed between the leaders of two Venezuelan newspaper enterprises.

"I can only regret," Dr Nunez Arismendi answered, "that there are among our editors these disagreements which contribute to splintering editorial strength in defense of freedom of expression."

IAPA Meeting

In January, the president of the IAPA will convoke a meeting of the Executive Committee and the Committee on Freedom of Expression of this body to study problems currently being faced by the mass communications media in a number of countries on the continent.

"Not only the question of the VI National Venezuelan Plan, but other difficulties encountered in El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Grenada, will be analyzed. In Grenada the daily newspaper ANTORCHA is still shut down."

The meeting may possibly be held in Miami.

Nunez Aizpurua stressed that there is no problem among the members of the Inter-American Press Association.

Hopes for Next Year

He was asked what message he had for the Venezuelan people.

"I want us to be able to retain our freedom and our democracy, and for them to be merged within an economic situation which truly favors the workers and the most needy classes. I wish everyone happy holidays and prosperity in the coming year."

The last question asked was as to whether he had any objections to voice about the Venezuelan courts.

He responded that the objection had been voiced by the appellate judge.

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BRIEFS

GOLD PRODUCTION PROBLEMS--Puerto Ordaz, 20 Dec--The Minervan enterprise, which mines gold in El Callao, has serious production problems. It was reported that the Investment Fund had planned to contract with a North American group for correction of the shortcomings of all sorts. Many of the miners questioned believe that corrective measures are not being implemented and a number of engineers have resigned. Recently Dr Leopoldo Diaz Bruzual asked for an extensive report on what is really being done at Minerven. [Text] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 21 Dec 80 Sec 2 p 26] 5157

NEW PCV OFFICIAL--The Fourth Plenum of the Central Committee of the PCV [Communist Party of Venezuela] has approved the creation of four departments merging related secretariats and sections in an effort to improve the national leadership of the party functionally. These departments are: 1) organizational affairs (organization and finance), 2) mass (trade union, agrarian, youth, feminine, higher educational, municipal and professional and technical affairs), 3) propaganda and ideology (propaganda, education, TRIBUNA POPULAR, economic and social studies and CC review), and 4) international relations (international policy, solidarity and foreign relations). Those in charge of these departments are Comrades Alonso Ojeda Olaechea (1), Pedro Ortega Diaz (2), Radames Larrazabal (3) and Eduardo Gallegos Mancera (4). The secretaries elected by the CC are Comrades Jorge Santana (organization), Rafael Jose Cortes (finance), Eduardo Gallegos Mancera (international), Noel Sirit (youth), Olga Luzardo (education), Americo Diaz Nunez (propaganda), Humberto Orsini (professional workers and technicians), Hector Murjica (higher education), Trino Melean (municipal affairs) and Fernando Key Sanchez (theoretical CC review). The designation of the trade union, agrarian and women's secretaries of the CC was postponed. The commission on discipline and supervision of cadres includes Eduardo Gallegos Mancera, Rafael Jose Cortes and Fernando Key Sanchez (regular members), and Trino Melean and Pedro Gutierrez (substitutes). The editorial board of TRIBUNA POPULAR includes Gustavo Machado (director), Americo Duaz Nunez (editor in chief), Radames Larrazabal and Hector Mujica. [Text] [Caracas TRIBUNA POPULAR in Spanish 5-11 Dec 80 p 1] 5157

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